United Nations S/2001/846

Security Council

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5 September 2001
English
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Identical letters dated 4 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 29 August 2001 from Mr. Naji Sabri, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq. The Minister calls attention to the ongoing wanton aggression against Iraq by United States and British aircraft in the unlawful no-flight zones and to the fact that in the period from 8 to 13 August 2001 they carried out 144 sorties, 34 of them from Saudi Arabia, 38 from Kuwait and 72 from Turkey.

The Minister reaffirms the Government of Iraq's condemnation of these acts of aggression against Iraqi territory, and he states that international responsibility for them must be borne by the United States of America, the United Kingdom and the countries that provide the logistic support for this aggression, namely Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey. He urges you to perform the duties assigned to you under the Charter by halting this unwarranted aggression and ensuring that it does not recur.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Al-Douri**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

01-52918 (E) 070901 100901

Annex to the identical letters dated 4 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

I should like to inform you that United States and British warplanes based in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey have continued to violate the airspace of the Republic of Iraq. They flew 144 armed sorties in the period from 8 to 13 August 2001, 34 of them from Saudi Arabia, 38 from Kuwait and 72 from Turkey, as shown in the statement enclosed herewith.

This aggression illustrates the criminal attitude being maintained by the United States of America and the United Kingdom towards Iraq. Since 1992, it has become a fixed policy aimed at undermining the country's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity and at the systematic and concerted destruction of Iraqi lives, infrastructure and civilian installations. It is a policy that has been affirmed in successive statements made by United States and British officials.

The fair-minded nations of the world, including the Arab countries, have condemned the maintenance of the no-flight zones as representing an illegitimate use of force against an independent State. Three countries that are permanent members of the Security Council, namely the Russian Federation, China and France, have stressed the fact that the enforcement of the no-flight zones in northern and southern Iraq has no basis in any principle of international law. Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, the former Secretary-General, has stated that the claim made by the United States that Security Council resolution 688 (1991) authorizes the imposition of the no-flight zones is groundless. At his press conference of 27 June 2001, Mr. Kofi A. Annan also said that there was no basis in the resolutions of the Security Council for the imposition of the no-flight zones in northern and southern Iraq. His actual words were (SG/SM/7865):

> "You know my position on this, and I have indicated that when you analyse and read the Security Council resolutions I do not see the Security Council resolutions as a basis for that."

The Government of Iraq categorically rejects the two so-called no-flight zones, which were imposed by unilateral decision of the United States and the United Kingdom and lack any legal basis. Iraq rejects all the flimsy excuses and pretexts stemming from this illegal decision that are used by these States in an attempt to justify their military aggression against our country.

The logistic support made available by the Saudi and Kuwaiti regimes and by Turkey to the United States and the United Kingdom, which includes the provision of air bases, has made them key partners in the aggression being committed against Iraq, so that they bear international responsibility under international law. This includes liability for full compensation for the loss and damage, in both human and material terms, that is caused by these illegal practices.

The Government of Iraq further renews its appeal to the countries participating in this aggression to desist forthwith from internationally prohibited acts that violate Iraq's sovereignty, place its security and integrity in grave danger and pose a direct and serious threat to international peace and security.

As it condemns these acts of aggression against Iraqi residential areas and civilian and military installations, the Government of Iraq urges you, given that it has been ascertained that there is no basis in the resolutions of the Security Council for the imposition of the no-flight zones, to perform the duties assigned to you as they relate to the maintenance of international peace and security, to call upon the governments of the countries in question to halt, end and desist from any resumption of their ongoing aggression against Iraq — an independent, sovereign State and a founding Member of the United Nations — and to charge the perpetrators of this aggression and the regional parties that have associated themselves with it, namely Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Turkey, with full legal responsibility for their persistence in this crime.

(*Signed*) Naji **Sabri**
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Enclosure

Violations of the airspace of the Republic of Iraq by United States and British warplanes, 8-13 August 2001

1. In the northern region 72 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 1215 hours on 8 August 2001, United States and British F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 22 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Mosul, Sinjar, Ayn Zalah, Amadiyah, Dohuk and Baibo areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1500 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1120 hours on 9 August 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 20 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Zakho, Sinjar and Amadiyah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1350 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1230 hours on 10 August 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 20 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Baibo, Zakho, Dohuk, Ayn Zalah, Mosul, Tall Afar, Irbil, Aqrah and Amadiyah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1230 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 1217 hours on 13 August 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 10 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Zakho, Amadiyah, Dohuk and Aqrah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1235 hours, drove them off.

2. In the southern region 72 armed sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 9,000 to 13,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 1430 hours on 8 August 2001, United States and British F-14, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out seven armed sorties, two of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and five from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Artawi, Jalibah, Qurnah, Hashimiyah, Busayyah and Qal'at Salih areas. Our air

defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1737 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1025 hours on 9 August 2001, United States and British F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 23 armed sorties, 12 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 11 from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Busayyah, Jalibah, Ashbajah, Salman and Artawi areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1300 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1130 hours on 10 August 2001, United States and British F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 25 armed sorties, 12 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 13 from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Busayyah, Basrah, Umm Qasr, Artawi, Nasiriyah, Qal`at Sukkar, Kut, Aziziyah, Afak, Diwaniyah and Shaykh Sa`d areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1500 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 1135 hours on 11 August 2001, United States and British F-14 and F-15 aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 17 armed sorties, eight of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and nine from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Busayyah, Nukhayb, Lasaf, Jalibah and Artawi areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1315 hours, drove them off.

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Letter dated 4 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 2 September 2001 from Mr. Naji Sabri, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq. Appended to the Minister's letter is a table showing violations of Iraq's international boundaries committed by United States and British warplanes flying across the demilitarized zone monitored by the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) in the period from 4 to 17 August 2001.

The Minister urges you to instruct UNIKOM to perform its duties in full, to report these violations to the Security Council through you immediately they occur and to specify the number and nationality of the warplanes that violate the demilitarized zone, given that these violations constitute wanton aggression against Iraq and against its people, its sovereignty and its territory, as well as against United Nations peacekeeping operations. He further asks you to alert the Security Council to its responsibility to halt the aggression and hold the aggressors accountable for it under international law.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Al-Douri**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

01-52865 (E) 060901 100901

Annex to the letter dated 4 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to our letter dated 9 August 2001 (S/2001/786, annex), I should like to inform you that United States and British warplanes committed 110 violations of Iraq's international boundaries from bases in Kuwait, from Kuwait's airspace and territorial waters and by way of the demilitarized zone monitored by the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) in the period from 4 to 17 August 2001. In accordance with the table appended to this letter, the relevant Iraqi authorities have determined that the violations committed were as follows:

1. Armed and hostile aerial activity by the United States and the United Kingdom, violating our international boundaries from United States and British bases in Kuwait, from Kuwait's airspace and territorial waters and by way of the demilitarized zone, comprised 110 armed sorties in the following governorates: Dhi Qar, Muthanna, Basrah, Maysan and Qadisiyah.

2. Our technical systems identified the aircraft violating Iraq's airspace on a daily basis as American F-14s, F-15s, F-16s and F-18s and British Tornadoes.

3. An AWACS aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and an E-2C aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace provided support to all of the United States and British aircraft that carried out armed and hostile sorties, violating Iraq's airspace by way of the demilitarized zone.

4. Between 4 and 17 August 2001, a total of 12 remotely piloted aircraft violated Iraq's airspace from United States and British bases in Kuwait, from Kuwait's airspace and territorial waters and by way of the demilitarized zone.

All of the violations in question were committed by way of the demilitarized zone in which UNIKOM is stationed. One of UNIKOM's primary responsibilities is to monitor such hostile military operations and to report them and endeavour to halt them immediately.

The fair-minded nations of the world, including the Arab countries, have condemned the maintenance of the no-flight zones as representing an illegitimate use of force against an independent, sovereign State. Three countries that are permanent members of the Security Council, namely the Russian Federation, China and France, have stressed the fact that the enforcement of the no-flight zones in northern and southern Iraq has no basis in any principle of international law. Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, your predecessor as Secretary-General, has stated that the claim made by the United States that Security Council resolution 688 (1991) authorizes the imposition of the no-flight zones is groundless. At your press conference of 27 June 2001, you said that there was no basis in the resolutions of the Security Council for the imposition of the no-flight zones in northern and southern Iraq. Your actual words were (SG/SM/7865):

> "You know my position on this, and I have indicated that when you analyse and read the Security Council resolutions I do not see the Security Council resolutions as a basis for that."

The violations being committed by United States and British military aircraft, in which 10 to 20 of them are used daily, are tantamount to an undeclared war. It is

imperative that the United Nations should take the measures that are required in their regard under the Charter, so that the aggression may be halted and those who have committed the violations may be charged with full international responsibility for them, including liability for payment of compensation to Iraq.

The statements of UNIKOM to the effect that it is unable to monitor or identify these aircraft cannot be maintained in the light of the scientific and technological capabilities that are available or that UNIKOM is in a position to acquire and utilize in order to fulfil the requirements of its mandate by establishing the identity and country of the warplanes that are violating Iraq's sovereign airspace so that the necessary measures can then be taken by the Security Council to halt these violations and incursions.

I accordingly urge you once more to instruct UNIKOM to perform its duties in full, to report these violations to the Security Council through you immediately they occur and to specify the number and nationality of the warplanes that violate the demilitarized zone and commit aggression against Iraq, given that they constitute wanton aggression against Iraq and against its people, its sovereignty and its territory, as well as against United Nations peacekeeping operations, and I ask you to alert the Security Council to its responsibility to halt the aggression and hold the aggressors accountable for it under international law.

(*Signed*) Naji **Sabri**
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Enclosure

Hostile aerial activity violating Iraq's international boundaries from Kuwait and by way of the demilitarized zone, 4-17 August 2001

No.	*Date*	*From*	*Time*	*Type*	*Armed sorties*	*Altitude (metres)*	*Speed (km/h)*	*Areas overflown*
1	4-10 August	Kuwait	0837-1440	F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado, drone	67 (including 9 drones)	8,000-11,000	240-780	Artawi, Jalibah, Nasiriyah, Afak, Qurnah, Amarah, Qal'at Sukkar, Nu'maniyah, Hayy
2	11-17 August	Kuwait	0818-1855	F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18	43 (including 3 drones)	10,000-11,000	240-780	Basrah, Nasiriyah, Qurnah, Amarah, Artawi, Jalibah, Busayyah

Total sorties: 110

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Security Council

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Letter dated 5 September 2001 from the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations addressed to the President of the Security Council

As directed by the Secretary-General, I have the honour to refer to the letter from the Permanent Representation of Israel to you, dated 28 August (S/2001/831), drawing attention to certain developments in South Lebanon, in particular the situation in the Ghajar/Abbasiyeh area. I wish to provide some clarifications on the actions taken to date by the United Nations on this matter and to address the requests made by the Permanent Representative.

At the outset, it should be recalled that the Secretary-General in his report to the Security Council dated 22 January 2001 (S/2001/66), indicated that since the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) "no longer exercises any control over the area of operation". Neither does UNIFIL maintain checkpoints, nor has it done so since the drawing of the Blue Line. As the Council reaffirmed in resolution 1365 (2001), UNIFIL carries out its functions through mobile patrols and observation from fixed positions and through close contacts with the parties to correct violations, resolve incidents and prevent the escalation of incidents. The establishment of fixed positions is based on operational considerations and should not be dictated by the parties.

In the vicinity of Ghajar, UNIFIL has a position known as 4-28, approximately one and a half kilometres east of the village. During the period this position was under construction, UNIFIL was temporarily storing containers about two hundred metres away by a gate in the old technical fence on the road leading to the abandoned village of Abbasiyeh. The construction of 4-28 was completed and the containers were removed on 4 August 2001. At no time did these containers constitute a position or, as asserted by Israel, a checkpoint. While the containers were an obstacle to the road to Ghajar, they did not by any means prevent or control all access to the road, nor were they intended to prevent Lebanese access to Lebanese land.

The village of Abbasiyeh, the road leading to Ghajar and the entire surrounding area are clearly on the Lebanese side of the Blue Line.

The United Nations was key to the establishment of the "status quo" in Ghajar village, and is endeavouring to maintain it. UNIFIL and the other United Nations representatives in the region have worked actively to maintain that arrangement when it appeared that actions by either party could result in destabilization of the situation. In this most recent period, the office of the Special Coordinator, the office

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of the Personal Representative and the UNIFIL command have engaged in concerted efforts at the diplomatic and military levels with Lebanese and Israeli authorities to restore stability and avert conflict. There have been, however, no "understandings" reached with Israeli officials — United Nations officials have simply seen fit, for the sake of international peace and security, to inform their Israeli interlocutors of various avenues that might be pursued with the Lebanese authorities.

The initiatives at the political level combined with UNIFIL efforts on the ground (including assertive UNIFIL patrolling by armoured personnel carriers and close contact with the villagers and other local Lebanese) were able to bring about a decrease in provocative activity resulting in reduced tension. As of last week, the situation had improved significantly, fostering conditions on the ground that might allow a return to the status quo.

The United Nations is continuing to keep a close watch on the situation in the Ghajar/Abbasiyeh area and will promptly take any necessary further steps with its Lebanese and Israeli interlocutors to pre-empt possible inflammatory incidents. However, though UNIFIL, through its presence, is often in a position to play an important deterrent role, the fact that its actions here as elsewhere are necessarily governed by its mandate should not be overlooked. Primary responsibility for preventing deterioration of any situation along the Blue Line rests with the parties, who are obligated by the decisions of the Security Council to cooperate fully with the United Nations and UNIFIL.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jean-Marie **Guéhenno**
Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations

United Nations S/2001/849

Security Council

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6 September 2001
English
Original: French

Letter dated 6 September 2001 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to recall that, in its resolution 1160 (1998) of 31 March 1998, the Security Council, inter alia, decided "that all States shall, for the purposes of fostering peace and stability in Kosovo, prevent the sale or supply to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, including Kosovo, by their nationals or from their territories or using their flag vessels and aircraft, of arms and related materiel of all types, such as weapons and ammunition, military vehicles and equipment and spare parts for the aforementioned, and shall prevent arming and training for terrorist activities there".

In paragraph 16 of the same resolution, the Security Council decided to "reconsider the prohibitions imposed by this resolution, including action to terminate them, following receipt of the assessment of the Secretary-General that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia cooperating in a constructive manner with the Contact Group, has:

(a) Begun a substantive dialogue in accordance with paragraph 4 above, including the participation of an outside representative or representatives, unless any failure to do so is not because of the position of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia or Serbian authorities;

(b) Withdrawn the special police units and ceased action by the security forces affecting the civilian population;

(c) Allowed access to Kosovo by humanitarian organizations as well as representatives of the Contact Group and other embassies;

(d) Accepted a mission by the Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) for the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia that would include a new and specific mandate for addressing the problems in Kosovo, as well as the return of the OSCE long-term missions;

(e) Facilitated a mission to Kosovo by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights".

As you are aware, since the adoption of resolution 1160 (1998) the political and security situation in the region has changed considerably. In its resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999, the Security Council decided on the deployment in Kosovo, under United Nations auspices, of international civil and security presences, with

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appropriate equipment and personnel as required, and welcomed the agreement of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to such presences. The new authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia are cooperating constructively with the international community in efforts to bring peace and stability to the Balkan region.

In the statement by the President of the Security Council of 16 march 2001 (S/PRST/2001/8), the Council welcomed the close contact between the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and KFOR and stressed the importance of substantial dialogue between Kosovo political leaders and the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

In view of the above, I believe that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has complied with the provisions of resolution 1160 (1998). The Security Council may therefore wish to reconsider the prohibitions imposed by paragraph 8 of that resolution.

I should be grateful if you would bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

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Security Council

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7 September 2001
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 5 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 5 September 2001 from Mr. Naji Sabri, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq. The Minister calls attention to the ongoing wanton aggression against Iraq by United States and British aircraft in the unlawful no-flight zones and to the fact that in the period from 14 to 28 August 2001 they carried out 290 sorties, 38 of them from Saudi Arabia, 62 from Kuwait and 190 from Turkey, causing the death of one Iraqi citizen and the wounding of three, as well as the destruction of some civilian installations in the northern region.

The Minister reaffirms the Government of Iraq's condemnation of these acts of aggression against Iraqi territory, and he states that international responsibility for them must be borne by the United States of America, the United Kingdom and the countries that provide the logistic support for this aggression, namely Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey. He urges you to perform the duties assigned to you under the Charter by halting this unwarranted aggression and ensuring that it does not recur.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Al-Douri**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

01-53123 (E) 170901 170901

Annex to the identical letters dated 5 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

I should like to inform you that United States and British warplanes based in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey have continued to violate the airspace of the Republic of Iraq. They flew 290 armed sorties in the period from 14 to 28 August 2001, 38 of them from Saudi Arabia, 62 from Kuwait and 190 from Turkey, as shown in the statement enclosed herewith. These raids resulted in the destruction of some civilian installations in Maysan governorate, 360 kilometres south-east of Baghdad. One Iraqi citizen was killed and three wounded in the northern region of Iraq.

This aggression illustrates the criminal attitude being maintained by the United States of America and the United Kingdom towards Iraq. Since 1992, it has become a fixed policy aimed at undermining the country's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity and at the systematic and concerted destruction of Iraqi lives, infrastructure and civilian installations. It is a policy that has been affirmed in successive statements made by United States and British officials. The fair-minded nations of the world, including three permanent members of the Security Council, namely the Russian Federation, China and France, have condemned the maintenance of the no-flight zones in northern and southern Iraq as having no basis in any principle of international law. Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, the former Secretary-General, has stated that the claim made by the United States that Security Council resolution 688 (1991) authorizes the imposition of the no-flight zones is groundless. At his press conference of 27 June 2001, Mr. Kofi A. Annan also said that there was no basis in the resolutions of the Security Council for the imposition of the no-flight zones in northern and southern Iraq. His actual words were (SG/SM/7865):

> "You know my position on this, and I have indicated that when you analyse and read the Security Council resolutions I do not see the Security Council resolutions as a basis for that."

The Government of Iraq categorically rejects the two so-called no-flight zones, which were imposed by unilateral decision of the United States and the United Kingdom and lack any legal basis. Iraq rejects all the flimsy excuses and pretexts stemming from this illegal decision that are used by these States in an attempt to justify their military aggression against our country.

The logistic support made available by the Saudi and Kuwaiti regimes and by Turkey to the United States and the United Kingdom, which includes the provision of air bases, has made them key partners in the aggression being committed against Iraq, so that they bear international responsibility under international law. This includes liability for full compensation for the loss and damage, in both human and material terms, that is caused by these illegal practices.

The Government of Iraq further renews its appeal to the countries participating in this aggression to desist forthwith from internationally prohibited acts that violate Iraq's sovereignty, place its security and integrity in grave danger and pose a direct and serious threat to international peace and security.

As it condemns these acts of aggression against Iraqi residential areas and civilian and military installations, the Government of Iraq urges you, given that it has been ascertained that there is no basis in the resolutions of the Security Council for the imposition of the no-flight zones, to perform the duties assigned to you as they relate to the maintenance of international peace and security, to call upon the Governments of the countries in question to halt, end and desist from any resumption of their ongoing aggression against Iraq — an independent sovereign State and a founder Member of the United Nations — and to charge the perpetrators of this aggression and the regional parties that have associated themselves with it, namely Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Turkey with full legal responsibility for their persistence in this crime.

(*Signed*) Naji **Sabri**
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Enclosure

Violations of the airspace of the Republic of Iraq by United States and British warplanes, 14-28 August 2001

1. In the northern region 190 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 1150 hours on 14 August 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Baibo, Amadiyah, Zakho, Aqrah, Dohuk, Ayn Zalah, Mosul, Tall Afar, Irbil and Rawanduz areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1445 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1130 hours on 15 August 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 12 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Zakho, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Mosul and Sinjar areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1215 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1150 hours on 16 August 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Irbil, Zakho, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Dohuk and Rawanduz areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1230 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 1100 hours on 17 August 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 26 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Zakho, Amadiyah, Dohuk, Irbil, Mosul, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Dukan and Aqrah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1100 hours, drove them off.

(e) At 1130 hours on 20 August 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Dohuk, Irbil, Mosul, Tall Afar, Aqrah, Sinjar and Zakho areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1400 hours, drove them off.

(f) At 0925 hours on 20 August 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 36 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Dohuk, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Rawanduz, Mosul, Irbil, Sinjar, Ayn Zalah

and Tall Afar areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1350 hours, drove them off.

(g) At 1135 hours on 22 August 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 20 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Baibo, Aqrah, Amadiyah, Dohuk, Zakho, Ayn Zalah, Tall Afar, Irbil, Rawanduz, Mosul and Dukan areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1440 hours, drove them off.

(h) At 1020 hours on 26 August 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Dohuk, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Irbil, Mosul, Tall Afar, Sinjar and Ayn Zalah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1330 hours, drove them off.

(i) At 1030 hours on 27 August 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Mosul, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Zakho, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Irbil, Sinjar and Ayn Zalah areas. As a result of these armed sorties carried out by United States and British aircraft, one Iraqi citizen was killed and three wounded. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1330 hours, drove them off.

(j) At 1050 hours on 28 August 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish territory and overflew the Zakho, Amadiyah, Mosul, Irbil, Baibo, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Sinjar and Dohuk areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1405 hours, drove them off.

2. In the southern region 100 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 9,000 to 13,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 1238 hours on 14 August 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from their bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 29 armed sorties, eight of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 21 from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Busayyah, Artawi, Salman, Shinafiyah, Qal'at Sukkar, Shatrah, Nasiriyah and Rifa'i areas. The United States and British aircraft bombed and destroyed civilian installations in Maysan governorate, 360 kilometres south-east of Baghdad. Our air defences, acting

in exercise of their legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1640 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 0930 hours on 15 August 2001, United States and British F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from their bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 20 armed sorties, 10 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 10 from Kuwaiti airspace and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Busayyah, Salman, Lasaf and Ashbajah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1200 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1125 hours on 20 August 2001, United States and British F-15 aircraft coming from their bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out three armed sorties, two of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and one from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Lasaf and Ashbajah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1210 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 1043 hours on 22 August 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from their bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 21 armed sorties, 10 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 11 from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Ashbajah, Busayyah, Salman, Lasaf and Artawi areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1225 hours, drove them off.

(e) At 1105 hours on 23 August 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from their bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 10 armed sorties, six of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi territory and four from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Ashbajah, Busayyah, Salman, Lasaf and Artawi areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of their legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1240 hours, drove them off.

(f) At 1140 hours on 25 August 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from their bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 17 armed sorties, two of them from

Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 15 from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E2-C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Busayyah, Lasaf, Jalibah, Nasiriyah, Hayy, Afak, Nu'maniyah, Kut, Aziziyah and Ali al-Gharbi areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of their legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1350 hours, drove them off.

United Nations S/2001/851

Security Council

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Letter dated 6 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Liberia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to forward herewith a self-explanatory letter addressed to you by Dahkpannah Charles Ghankay Taylor, President of the Republic of Liberia (see annex).

The original letter has been transmitted through the United Nations Peace-building Support Office in Monrovia.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Lami **Kawah**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

01-53065 (E) 070901

Annex to the letter dated 6 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Liberia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I am once again constrained to raise the issue of the national security of Liberia with the Security Council. As you may recall, a general disarmament occurred in Liberia and was conducted by ECOMOG and UNOMIL prior to the 1997 elections. Subsequently, ECOMOG and UNOL, with the consent of the Government of Liberia, carried out the destruction of all arms and ammunition collected under the disarmament exercise. It was expected that the processes of disarmament and arms destruction would contribute in a positive manner to the consolidation of peace and security in post-war Liberia. However, and to the contrary, dissidents opposed to the constitutionally elected Government of Liberia viewed the process as an opportunity to wage war against a vulnerable people and thus carried out armed attacks into Lofa County, Liberia, from across the Guinean border. These attacks began in 1999 immediately following the arms destruction exercise and continue unabated today.

As a consequence of the Lofa war, hundreds have been killed, thousands of Liberians have fled to neighbouring countries as refugees and over 300,000 persons have been displaced. Additionally, rehabilitated schools, hospitals, public buildings and private property have been destroyed. Villages have been burnt, farms destroyed and all manner of atrocities have been committed against innocent citizens by the dissidents. Today, a major humanitarian crisis exists where thousands of internally displaced persons from Lofa County are without shelter during this raining season. Malnutrition and disease abound owing to the lack of adequate food and clean drinking water.

The Government of Liberia is pleased to note that the Security Council did acknowledge in its press statement issued by the President of the Council on 16 August 2001 (SC/7120) the existence of the Lofa war and the resulting humanitarian consequences.

Needless to say, the Government of Liberia has a constitutional responsibility to provide for the protection of its sovereign territory, and the life and property of its citizens. The inherent right to self-defence is also expressed in Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, in which it is stated that, "Nothing in the present Charter shall impair the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence if an armed attack occurs against a Member of the United Nations, until the Security Council has taken measures necessary to maintain international peace and security".

The Government of Liberia has on several occasions notified the Security Council of the attacks against its territory. Yet, the Council has failed to take any measures to maintain the peace and security of Liberia. Furthermore, the Government of Liberia has informed the Council that the current United Nations arms embargo imposed upon Liberia has gravely impaired the Government's capacity to defend its territory. In view of the above, the Government has requested a limited waiver of the arms embargo to permit it to import essential military supplies for the sole purpose of its self-defence. Again, the Council has failed to grant such a waiver.

The Government of Liberia herewith, once again, requests the Security Council to grant a limited waiver of the arms embargo imposed by Council resolution 1343 (2001) to permit the importation of essential military supplies under United Nations monitoring to be used for the sole purpose of self-defence. The current state of Liberia's security requires urgent action on the part of the Government of Liberia to defend its territorial integrity in keeping with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

In view of the gravity of this situation, it is the hope of the Government of Liberia that this matter will claim the urgent attention of the Council and receive appropriate consideration.

(*Signed*) Dahkpannah Dr. Charles Ghankay **Taylor**

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Fifty-sixth session
Item 127 of the provisional agenda*
Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Children and armed conflict

Report of the Secretary-General**

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to paragraph 21 of Security Council resolution 1314 (2000), the second Security Council resolution devoted specifically to children and armed conflict. My first report to the General Assembly and the Security Council on children and armed conflict (A/55/163-S/2000/712) addressed a broad range of issues of concern to children affected by armed conflict, and contained 55 specific recommendations. The present progress report on the implementation of resolution 1314 (2000) stipulates several important measures intended to protect children during and after armed conflict. The report also informs the Security Council of actions under way to ensure implementation of my earlier recommendations and the relevant Council resolutions, and highlights additional key actions that may be taken in the near future.

2. In the armed conflicts of recent years children have featured centrally as targets of violence and, occasionally, even unwillingly, as perpetrators of violence. A large number of children have been directly affected by armed conflict, many of them uprooted from their homes and communities, maimed or killed. Others have been made orphans, abducted, abused and exploited. Particularly damaging for future generations is the impact of war on girls. Disadvantaged in peacetime, girls undergo sexual abuse and enslavement during war. In addition, war indirectly affects many more children by destroying entire social networks and infrastructures. Malnutrition increases as a result of low food production, impeded access to services and displacement. Many resources for social services are diverted into the war effort. As health services deteriorate, infant and child mortality rates rise dramatically. The destruction of schools and the displacement of teachers reduces access to schooling and leaves children at risk of recruitment. Displacement also separates families and deprives children of a secure environment. These have become common features of today's conflicts; they deserve special attention and action.

3. In Angola, for example, 30 years of war, widespread poverty, internal displacement and decay in the provision of social services have led to a catastrophic humanitarian situation. Since the resurgence of war in 1998, some 3 million people have been internally displaced (25 per cent of the total population). In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the International Rescue Committee reports that, since the renewed outbreak of the fighting in August 1998, some 2.5 million deaths have occurred, above and

* A/56/150.

** The footnote requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/248 was not included in the submission.

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beyond the million people who might have been expected to die otherwise. Seventy-five per cent of children born in the districts of Moba and Kalemie have died or will die before they reach the age of two.

4. In 1990, the Convention on the Rights of the Child (General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex), which provides an important normative framework for the protection of children affected by armed conflict, came into force. The world leaders who gathered at the 1990 World Summit for Children committed themselves to taking political action at the highest levels to protect children from the scourge of war and to take measures to prevent further armed conflicts.

5. Over the course of the ensuing decade, a number of actors have contributed to tangible progress in developing and advancing the agenda on children and armed conflict. I have reported on a number of those advances in my recent report to the General Assembly at its special session on children, entitled "We the children: end-decade review of the follow-up to the World Summit for Children" (A/S-27/3, paras. 341-361). Building on the momentum established at the Conference on War-Affected Children of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), held at Accra in April 2000 (see A/55/163-S/2000/712, para. 77), the International Conference on War-Affected Children, hosted by the Government of Canada, Winnipeg in September 2000, brought together 1,500 delegates from 130 countries and provided an important boost to our efforts on behalf of children affected by armed conflict. However, our growing awareness of the plight of war-affected children and increasing focus on their protection and rehabilitation have not yet, regrettably, ended children's suffering during and after armed conflict. We note commendable progress on many fronts and yet, to the children tormented by the effects of armed conflict, our efforts to bring about an "era of application" of protective norms and standards fall short both of their expectations and of universally agreed standards.

II. Consolidating the normative framework

6. Some 15 months after the General Assembly adopted the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, only 5 ratifications have been received — 5 short of the 10 required for this Protocol to enter into force. Eighty-one countries have signed, indicating their intention to proceed with ratification, and I urge them, and those countries that have not yet signed, to take the necessary steps without further delay. Moreover, only two of the five parties to the Protocol (Andorra, Sri Lanka) have set the minimum age for voluntary enlistment at 18, as I called upon Member States to do last year. The Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and my Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict have jointly addressed urgent appeals to a number of heads of State and Government, urging signature and/or ratification of the Optional Protocol.

7. I am pleased to note that 37 States have ratified the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, bringing closer to reality the possibility of prosecutions against individuals responsible for war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide.

8. The ILO Convention (No. 182) on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, which prohibits forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in hostilities, has been rapidly ratified; it entered into force on 19 November 2000 and currently has 173 States parties. As we mark the fiftieth anniversary of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, I would appeal to all Member States to ensure that attention is paid to the rights of refugee children, in accordance with both the 1951 Convention and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. In addition, there have been 118 ratifications of the Ottawa Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction.

9. While the primary international legal responsibility to protect children affected by armed conflict falls to States, other parties to conflict also incur similarly important obligations vis-à-vis children affected by or living in areas of armed conflict. I have asked the Security Council to urge armed groups to commit themselves to the child protection standards embodied in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the optional protocols thereto, and in international humanitarian law, and to accept and cooperate in the monitoring of adherence to those standards (A/55/163-S/2000/712, recommendation 4). In addition, the United Nations system and intergovernmental actors should support local communities and civil society groups in their efforts to strengthen local norms that

have traditionally provided for child protection in time of war (ibid., recommendation 5).

Action points

1. The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict is one of the core treaties that States are expected to ratify during the special session of the General Assembly on children. States are urged to take the necessary steps without further delay to sign and ratify the Optional Protocol.

2. States, in particular those considering the ratification of the Rome Statute, are urged to review their national legislation with a view to defining the crimes within the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court as national crimes and to ensure that national courts have jurisdiction over them and can prosecute egregious violations of children's rights in the context of armed conflict, wherever they occur.

III. Monitoring of obligations and commitments: eliciting compliance

10. The framework of international law and consequent obligations provide the foundation upon which international protection efforts must be based. The effective monitoring of adherence to that framework is in itself an essential action contributing to the protection of children and their rights.

A. Eliciting compliance with obligations and commitments

11. Over the past three years, my Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict and UNICEF have worked with the United Nations missions and country teams to elicit commitments from the parties to various armed conflicts throughout the world, generating a series of child protection pledges from parties to conflict. My Special Representative, Olara A. Otunnu, has elicited 59 specific commitments from Governments and representatives of armed groups in several zones of conflict where children have suffered immensely.

12. For example, he visited the Democratic Republic of the Congo from 23 May to 3 June 2001, and there met President Joseph Kabila, the leaders of the Rassemblement congolais pour la démocratie (RCD), headed by Adolphe Onusumba, and the leaders of the Front pour la Libération du Congo (FLC), headed by Jean-Pierre Bemba. He proposed the following five-point programme of action for ending child soldiering in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which has been accepted by all political and military leaders:

(a) Halt the recruitment of children under the age of 18 and refrain from deploying child soldiers;

(b) Undertake joint visits (by the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC), UNICEF and military authorities) to military camps and barracks to ensure that children are not being used in war;

(c) Encourage public awareness campaigns to sensitize the military, civil society and local communities regarding child soldiers;

(d) Establish necessary programmes for reception and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of child soldiers;

(e) Establish a mechanism to monitor and report on compliance with commitments set out above.

In addition, those leaders committed themselves to ensuring access to humanitarian assistance to all vulnerable populations, in particular children, and provided security guarantees for humanitarian personnel. It is hoped that parties to armed conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo will adhere to the commitments made to my Special Representative.

13. In several zones of conflict, important commitments made to my Special Representative and other relevant bodies have been met. The Government of Rwanda has enacted legislation that enables girls, including tens of thousands who became heads of households after the 1994 genocide, to inherit farms and other properties crucial to their survival. Prompted by the facilitator of the Arusha peace process, parties to armed conflict agreed to place issues pertaining to war-affected children on the agenda of the process and in the resulting accords. The Government of Colombia raised its age of recruitment into the armed forces to 18 and subsequently demobilized a number of under-age recruits. Parties to armed conflict in the Sudan have taken steps to improve humanitarian access to the

conflict zone. In Sierra Leone, the Government has met its commitment to establish a National Commission for War-Affected Children. Despite such instances of progress, however, children continue to be targeted in ongoing conflicts in Burundi, Sri Lanka and the Sudan and by guerrillas and militias in Colombia.

14. Experience has shown that concerted leadership by United Nations missions and agencies, in particular the United Nations country team on the ground and by non-governmental organizations in following up on these commitments through sustained advocacy and monitoring is vital to their success. Norms and commitments require compliance. Last year I called upon Member States to consider taking measures to make any political, diplomatic, financial, material and military assistance for State or non-State parties to conflict contingent on compliance with international standards that protect children in armed conflict. I reiterate my appeal to Member States to use their political, legislative and diplomatic leverage to help ensure that parties to conflict respect their child protection obligations and commitments.

B. Monitoring compliance with obligations and commitments

15. There is an urgent need to further expand and strengthen the impartial and credible reporting of compliance with international standards and with commitments given by parties to armed conflict to my Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict and concerned bodies. Such reporting can assist in exerting political pressure on parties whose conduct falls short of their child protection obligations or commitments.

16. The Security Council has been increasingly active in its call for improved monitoring and reporting of child protection concerns. For example, in its resolution 1355 (2001) on the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Council specifies that child protection advisers deployed with MONUC should ensure consistent and systematic monitoring and reporting on the conduct of the parties to the conflict as concerns their child protection obligations under humanitarian and human rights law and the commitments they have made to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict.

17. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has worked the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to incorporate human rights monitoring into peacekeeping operations, including through child rights officers in the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) and MONUC. In addition, several Special Rapporteurs of the Commission on Human Rights are paying particular attention to children affected by armed conflict during their missions and in their reports; some of them have been able to brief the Security Council.

18. Among those taking up the call for improved monitoring is a group of international non-governmental organizations that are forming a "watchlist" to compile information and assess the performance of armed forces and groups on the basis of uniform criteria and continuous, field-based information-gathering.

19. Effective monitoring of and reporting on abuses of children's rights in wartime can have life-threatening implications for the staff on the ground, both international and national. The Security Council has therefore repeatedly called on parties to armed conflict to ensure safe and unhindered access to vulnerable populations, has strongly condemned attacks on the personnel of humanitarian organizations and has demanded that perpetrators be brought to justice.

20. The media can also play a role in drawing attention to the plight of children in armed conflict. In May 2001, 60 Angolan children were abducted by UNITA in Caxito Bengo Province, Angola. The documentation available on the abducted children — including their names, ages and photographs — enabled UNICEF and the United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator in Angola to launch an international publicity campaign, which prompted UNITA to release the children to a Catholic Mission after 20 days.

21. Monitoring must, of course, be more than an end in itself. If monitoring efforts are intended to indicate and predict trends over time and if information available is to be used to inform the exercise of political will and the development of policy and programme efforts on behalf of children, then rigorous, credible, neutral and systematic monitoring must be ensured. Reliable monitoring and documentation of wartime abuses of children will also facilitate post-conflict efforts to expose the perpetrators of these

crimes and, where possible, bring them to justice. My Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict has proposed an autonomous "observatory", affiliated with an independent research institution, to monitor the conduct and compliance with commitments of parties to armed conflict.

Action points

3. The Security Council and Member States are called upon to continue to take steps to ensure compliance by all parties to armed conflicts with their child protection obligations and the commitments they have made to my Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, as well as relevant United Nations bodies.

4. The Security Council may wish to ensure that the mandates of peace operations explicitly include provisions for the monitoring of the rights of children.

5. Accurate and current information about the protection of children's rights in situations of conflict from a wide variety of sources, including United Nations peace operations, country teams, and Special Rapporteurs, and non-governmental organizations, should be made available to the Security Council and Member States.

6. Regional organizations are called upon to institute mechanisms for monitoring and taking steps to curb the cross-border movement of individuals and groups credibly accused of having violated their child protection commitments and obligations.

IV. Child protection on the United Nations peace and security agenda

22. This year has seen heightened activism by both the General Assembly and the Security Council on behalf of children affected by armed conflict, which should include eliciting a strong outcome from the General Assembly at its special session on children.

A. The Security Council's heightened activism on behalf of children in armed conflict

23. Over the past year, the Security Council has continued to request, to receive and to respond to, information concerning the impact of armed conflict on children. I have undertaken to include an assessment of critical child protection concerns and corresponding recommendations in relevant reports to the Council. Consequently, over the course of this reporting period the Council has received pertinent information and/or recommendations in some 30 reports. Seven Security Council resolutions reflected a concern for child protection in time of armed conflict, as did several Security Council presidential statements and open debates. Moreover, in recognition of the association between armed conflict and deteriorating humanitarian conditions that dramatically affect children's mortality, the Council is receiving briefings by humanitarian agencies on the situation of children in countries and regions of concern to it. I urge the Council to consider such information regularly and, when appropriate, to take action to ensure that safe and unhindered humanitarian access to vulnerable populations is provided by parties to armed conflict.

24. The Security Council's engagement with the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo provides one example of its growing concern for child protection. Its call on all parties to armed conflict to immediately stop the recruitment and the use of child soldiers (resolution 1332 (2000)) led to the hand-over of 165 children from Bunia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, to UNICEF from a training camp in Uganda. This illustrates how Security Council resolutions can provide the leverage for agencies on the ground to address violations of children's rights. The members of the Council were also briefed by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Roberto Garretón, primarily on the issue of child soldiers both before and after the Council's visit to the country. In its resolution 1341 (2001), the Council requested that my Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict oversee compliance with the demand that such children be demobilized speedily, returned and rehabilitated, and urged that he be dispatched to visit the region without delay. Subsequently the Security Council incorporated a number of concrete child protection elements into the renewed mandate of

MONUC in June 2001. Specifically, in its resolution 1355 (2001) it called upon all relevant parties to ensure that urgent child protection concerns were addressed in all national, bilateral and regional dialogues, and that child soldiers were expeditiously demobilized, and called upon Member States to ensure the resources required for long-term reintegration. The Security Council also called upon me to ensure sufficient deployment of child protection advisers, which were first authorized by the Council for UNAMSIL, within MONUC. Additional child protection advisers will soon be deployed to relieve the currently over-stretched child protection section of MONUC. I am grateful for the Security Council's continued commitment to resolution 1314 (2000), in which it reaffirmed its continued readiness to deploy child protection advisers as appropriate.

B. Integrating child protection into United Nations peacemaking and peacekeeping processes

1. Peacemaking processes

25. While much has been done to draw attention to the situation of children's rights and protection, it is important to examine the role that United Nations mediators, negotiators and heads of mission might play in addressing those issues during peace negotiations and in peace agreements.

26. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations is giving consistently high priority to the protection of children's rights. In a recent presentation to the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly on Children, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations proposed to build upon the progress made in this area by establishing an informal inter-agency working group to evaluate the lessons learned to date and to discuss how our efforts may be supported in the future, in particular at the peace negotiation stage, through the integration of child protection in peacemaking and peacekeeping processes. The proposed working group will fully take into account the operational procedures being developed by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, in collaboration and consultation with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and others, to clarify responsibilities for and facilitate the implementation of recent recommendations on the cross-cutting topic of the protection of civilians in armed conflict (see S/2001/614 and S/2001/712). These processes will work in unison to ensure that members of the Security Council are briefed on child protection concerns relevant to each country and issue included in the Council's agenda.

2. Peacekeeping operations

27. At present two peacekeeping missions — UNAMSIL in Sierra Leone and MONUC in the Democratic Republic of the Congo — have explicit child protection elements in their mandates and child protection advisers among their personnel in order to ensure the integration of these issues in the peacekeeping and peace-building processes.

28. The child protection adviser within UNAMSIL has helped to ensure that the Mission works actively with UNICEF, non-governmental organizations and others to ensure the protection of the rights of children affected by armed conflict, including the release of child combatants by the rebel movement and their subsequent transfer to UNICEF and child protection agencies. Since May 2001, a total of 1,214 children from the Revolutionary United Front, 646 from the Civil Defence Forces and 14 from the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council/Sierra Leone Army have been demobilized. These children have entered into the UNICEF-supported child protection programmes that provide emergency interim care, family tracing and reunification and also community-based reintegration. UNAMSIL has advocated the reconciliation and acceptance of children back into their communities. Similarly, my Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, UNAMSIL and UNICEF have been involved in ensuring that the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission takes child protection concerns into account; they will also continue to take efforts to ensure respect for the rights of any child involved in the proceedings of the Special Court for Sierra Leone.

29. The United Nations operation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo is engaged in similar efforts and activities in that country for the protection of children affected by armed conflict, including continuously monitoring the recruitment and facilitating the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of child soldiers, a significant number of whom have reportedly been disarmed to date. In addition, MONUC will participate in a study to profile child soldiers in the

military camps, which should increase our knowledge about the impact of armed conflict on children and the requirements for their successful reintegration into society. MONUC has also been working closely with UNICEF, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and local non-governmental organizations on family reunification.

30. Several other peace operations are also taking important steps, in collaboration with UNICEF and other bodies, to advance the best interests of children within the scope of their mandates. The United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) provides technical assistance for humanitarian mine-action activities in the Temporary Security Zone, and the human rights component of the Mission investigates cross-border child protection issues, including discrimination, and the forced deportation or repatriation of families that can lead to separation of children from their parents. The United Nations Peace-building Support Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS) is verifying allegations of continued child recruitment into the army and is encouraging the Government to pay particular attention to the challenges facing children and women in post-conflict Guinea-Bissau. The United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH) and the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) are involved in the training of local juvenile justice administration officials.

31. The protection of children in armed conflict has thus been included in the peace and security agenda. With continued joint efforts and the support of Member States, efforts to address the needs of children in conflict and post-conflict situations will be further enhanced.

C. Ensuring the provision of child protection training and oversight for United Nations peacekeeping personnel

32. The United Nations system has advanced significantly towards the goal of ensuring that United Nations personnel involved in peacemaking, peacekeeping and peace-building activities have appropriate training in international human rights, humanitarian and refugee law, including child and gender-related provisions, as urged by the Security Council in its resolutions 1261 (1999), 1265 (1999) and 1296 (2000). Training on the rights of the child and child protection is now part of the curriculum of all the peacekeeping training activities conducted by the Training and Evaluation Service of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations.

33. In May 2001, the Office of my Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, UNICEF and the Swedish non-governmental organization Rädda Barnen, in collaboration with the DPKO, convened an informal working group on child protection training for peacekeeping personnel, to produce a complete core training package on child rights and protection for use by all United Nations multidimensional peace operations. The package will be adapted to the evolving mandate and local context of each particular mission and will contain materials relevant to the staff complement of each mission (e.g. military observers, peacekeepers, civilian police, civil affairs, child protection, human rights and humanitarian affairs). Participants in the working group include representatives of key United Nations-system actors, international and regional organizations, Member States, non-governmental organizations and individual experts. Some peacekeeping operations, including UNMEE and MONUC, have already developed child protection training materials with assistance from UNICEF. A number of United Nations entities and non-governmental organizations have collaborated in the production of the Action for the Rights of Children training materials; all of these will contribute to the core package compiled by the working group.

34. Because peacekeeping and other personnel should also maximize their potential to advance the interests of children and civilians within the scope of the particular mission's mandate, the training package must be administered within a framework of continuous guidance and supervision within each peacekeeping and peace-building operation. Child protection advisers will have an important role to play in this regard. Furthermore, the child protection materials will form a core part of the materials used by the Training and Evaluation Service of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations.

35. These concrete steps to provide child protection training for United Nations peacekeeping personnel in no way diminish the continued validity of the recommendation made in my last report on children and armed conflict, in which I asked Member States to

ensure similarly appropriate training for all national troops and personnel involved in United Nations peacekeeping operations in advance of deployment to the mission area (A/55/163-S/2000/712, recommendation 36). UNICEF country offices and national committees, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and non-governmental organizations can be of assistance in this regard.

D. Child-conscious procedures for investigating possible misconduct attributed to peacekeeping personnel

36. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations has drawn up a Code of Conduct for United Nations peacekeepers, which includes clear instructions regarding the protection of children's rights and a zero tolerance policy of abuse. Should allegations be made against an officer, internal investigations are conducted and may result in repatriation and waiver of immunity if he or she is found guilty. The Department is also aware of the need for uniform child-conscious operating procedures in the event of alleged staff misconduct involving a child. Local people in the mission area should have a point of contact within the mission to whom suspected misconduct can be reported; clear reporting lines for staff must be established to ensure that cases of suspected misconduct are addressed; and child-conscious investigation guidelines must be established to avoid further harm to any child involved in alleged misconduct or abuse. The Department is currently reviewing the procedures for investigating cases of alleged misconduct and, in consultation with my Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, will ensure that they include appropriate provisions for the investigation of alleged child abuse.

37. Last year, I recommended that the Security Council consider requesting troop-contributing States to inform the Secretariat on measures taken to investigate and prosecute members of their armed forces who are alleged to have violated international humanitarian law, including the rights of children (A/55/163-S/2000/712, recommendation 37). The action being taken within the Secretariat to reinforce standard operating procedures in cases of alleged violations of children's rights by peacekeeping staff is without prejudice to my request that Member States likewise contribute to the credibility and legitimacy of United Nations peacekeeping operations by conducting transparent follow-up to allegations of misconduct by their nationals acting under the United Nations flag.

E. Filling the knowledge gap to improve child protection within the peacekeeping context

38. Many of the policies and programmes intended to better protect children within the framework of the United Nations peacekeeping activities may be better informed by the efforts of a newly established international research network on children and armed conflict. That network was initially proposed and facilitated by my Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict and was launched in July 2001 in Florence, Italy, in collaboration with UNICEF, research institutions — the Social Science Research Council, the United Nations University of Peace and the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development — and non-governmental organizations, in particular International Save the Children Alliance and World Vision. It should soon begin to bring international expertise to bear on the assessment of and response to pressing child protection issues. In particular, members of the network will focus on identifying the trends in warfare that have made possible the targeting of children during armed conflict; precise data on the different aspects of the suffering of war-affected children; local norms and traditions relevant to the protection of children affected by armed conflict; and impact assessments from programme interventions on behalf of war-affected children. Reports and recommendations to the Security Council on child protection matters will in time reflect the extent to which the new initiative serves to increase our knowledge of the impact of armed conflict upon children and the ways in which key actors should best intervene or respond.

Action points

7. The work of the informal inter-agency working group on the integration of child protection concerns into peace negotiation and agreements should receive due attention and follow-up.

8. The training package developed by the informal working group on child protection training for peacekeeping personnel should form a core

component of training provided to peacekeeping personnel. Member States are called upon to take similar steps.

9. The Security Council may decide to continue to include child protection elements in the mandates of relevant peacekeeping operations, and to provide for child protection advisers and child-focused human rights officers where appropriate.

10. The launch of the international research network on children and armed conflict is commended and should be supported.

V. The impact on children of illicit exploitation of natural resources in zones of conflict

39. Illicit exploitation of natural resources by parties to armed conflict in war-affected areas adversely affects children by enabling parties to acquire the materials to continue the war and by diverting resources that should be feeding educational and social infrastructures. Reports indicate that children in many resource-rich conflict zones have been forced to work, mostly under terrible conditions, and have also been used as soldiers to protect mining and other extractive operations.

40. Parties to conflict rely on their ability to exploit local resources and market them abroad, sometimes with the assistance of neighbouring countries or the private sector. In sub-Saharan Africa, the illicit trade in diamonds has fuelled destructive civil wars in Angola, Liberia and Sierra Leone. In Colombia, vast tracts of fertile land have been converted from other crops to drugs to feed a lucrative trade that supports many of the parties to armed conflict in the country. The illicit trade in drugs also featured prominently in Afghanistan's incessant civil war, and continues to fuel civil conflict in Myanmar. In the eastern region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, parties to armed conflict have established sophisticated operations to exploit gold, diamonds, timber and coltan — an important resource in high-technology industries — and to export those resources illegally across the country's borders. Reports from both the United Nations and local and international non-governmental organizations attest to the scale of this plunder, and the resulting violations of children's rights.

41. Since my first report to the Security Council on children and armed conflict, the Council has started to take a number of significant steps to curb the impact on children of the exploitation of natural resources in zones of conflict by parties to armed conflict. In its resolution 1314 (2000), the Council expressed its grave concern at the linkages between illicit trade in natural resources and armed conflict and also expressed its intention to take appropriate steps. Expert groups established by the Council have studied the effectiveness of targeted sanctions aimed at curbing such illicit trade in Angola (see S/2000/203), as well as the impact of such trade on the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (see S/2001/357). In Sierra Leone, the Council has worked, through Member States, to encourage the diamond industry to establish a comprehensive system for tracking illicit diamonds (resolution 1306 (2000)), and has levied sanctions on one of Sierra Leone's neighbours complicit in that trade. With regard to Angola, the Monitoring Mechanism on Sanctions against UNITA established pursuant to resolution 1295 (2000) is considered to have been very effective in constraining the ability of UNITA to fuel its war through the sale of diamonds and its mandate has been extended (resolution 1348 (2001)).

42. Last year, I asked Member States to consider executive and legislative measures to discourage corporate actors within their jurisdiction from engaging in commercial activities with parties to armed conflict that engage in systematic violations of international child protection standards. Some Member States have taken laudable action to promote accountability among corporate actors in conflict situations. Efforts range from labelling products that come from conflict zones to promoting voluntary codes of conduct for businesses in conflict-ridden areas. Such codes of conduct could require the public disclosure of all investments, transactions or profits originating, concluding or involving actors based in countries embroiled in armed conflict. Member States with jurisdiction over those corporate actors could enact legislation requiring such transparency.

43. The explicit recommendations made in my last report, if fully implemented, would go a long way towards curbing the violation of children's rights caused by the illicit exploitation of natural resources in conflict areas (recommendations 7, 8, 10 and 38).

Further implementation of those recommendations is needed.

Action points

11. The Security Council may wish to continue to consider targeted measures against parties to armed conflict, including complicit neighbours, whose actions are contributing to the illegal exploitation of natural resources and the consequent fuelling of violent conflict in zones of conflict.

12. The Security Council may decide to continue its development of "strategic maps" of resource flows in zones of conflict characterized by egregious harm to children and civilians, focusing in particular on the beneficiaries of those flows and the supply chains whereby illegally procured resources are inserted into legal international markets. The Security Council is called upon to consider the inclusion, where feasible, of specific provisions in the mandates of peacekeeping operations to monitor such activity. In addition, the Security Council may wish to convene informal consultations with relevant actors, in particular with business leaders, on establishing mechanisms to curb those supply chains.

13. Multilateral development banks and the international corporate sector could conduct "child impact assessments", where feasible, with regard to particular investments and projects that they may be funding in or near zones of conflict. Such assessments will repay their own costs by leading to better relations with local communities and hence more viable investments.

VI. Child soldiers and abducted children

44. Thousands of children continue to be abducted to serve as soldiers, spies, messengers, servants and sexual slaves with armed forces and groups. Poverty, propaganda and ideology also continue to drive the involvement of children in many conflict areas.

45. One of the most alarming situations of this nature exists in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where all parties to the conflict have been recruiting children, in particular in the east, on a scale that has little historical precedent. In Timor, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) continues to trace children taken to other islands of Indonesia from the refugee camps in West Timor following the violence in 1999. The return of at least 200 children from Java has been obstructed until now by parties on the ground.

46. In West Africa, thousands of displaced and refugee children living in insecure border areas are susceptible to forced recruitment, as demonstrated recently by the deteriorating situation in the Mano River area. In Liberia, where the humanitarian situation in Lofa County has deteriorated, children who recently returned from Guinea are reportedly being forcibly taken from their terrified parents and recruited as soldiers from displaced persons camps in border areas. Sierra Leoneans fleeing war at home found themselves in an even less secure situation in Guinea. Children in refugee camps in Guinea have been at risk of recruitment — armed groups reportedly enter at will and remove boys under the age of 18.

47. Efforts to gain the release of children abducted in northern Uganda, and often taken to the Sudan, have yielded little or no dividend. Escape is the only, very risky, recourse for those children and it has proved successful for less than 200 children over the course of the past year. Escapees often perish during their flight or are recaptured and subjected to other forms of abuse by their captors. In fact the fate of thousands of abducted children remains unknown. In March this year, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights conducted an assessment mission to the Sudan and Uganda, with the participation of UNICEF and the Office of my Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict.

A. Prevention: addressing root causes and preventing cross-border abduction and trafficking

48. Efforts to stem the use of children as soldiers must focus on the root causes of child recruitment and on the conduct of the recruiters. Cross-border and region-wide monitoring may be required in many instances if one intended to map and track the phenomenon adequately. A strong political message must be sent to all those responsible both for the abductions and for the circumstances in which they are able to occur.

49. The international community should continue to promote the revival and strengthening of local norms and value systems that protect children; the prosecution of child recruiters by local, national and international justice systems; the improvement of educational and vocational opportunities for young people; and the continuous efforts to reduce poverty and involve young people in the reconstruction and development of their communities. Communities in the conflict-affected areas need to be directly involved in those efforts, as local resources and knowledge are often crucial for the sustainability of programme interventions on behalf of war-affected children.

B. Demobilization and reintegration of child soldiers

50. The General Assembly and the Security Council have on many occasions concurred that the demobilization, rehabilitation and reintegration of child soldiers must be integrated into any peace negotiation and resulting peace agreement, as well as dealt with during the conflict itself. Recruitment of children is a violation of their rights and must not await peace talks before it is addressed. Successful demobilization and reintegration can help to prevent continuing cycles of violence. Child soldier demobilization and reintegration during and after conflict continues to be a complex and challenging process and the humanitarian community continues to seek to integrate lessons learned from the demobilization and reintegration processes in Cambodia, El Salvador, Liberia, Mozambique, Rwanda and other conflict zones. The Council has rightly appealed to parties to armed conflict to ensure expeditious demobilization and reintegration, and also to Member States to ensure adequate and sustained resources for long-term reintegration. Yet among the key challenges for the agencies and donors attempting to plan an appropriate demobilization and reintegration programme for child soldiers is the daunting lack of basic information on the key characteristics of the children to be demobilized and the best means to ensure their reintegration. Among the initial lessons learned from the demobilization and reintegration programme built into the 1999 Lomé Peace Agreement in Sierra Leone is that such efforts should be characterized by a distinct demobilization and reintegration process for children within the framework of the broader programme for all combatants, a focus on the reintegration of children into their communities of origin, and support for existing cultural values and mechanisms such as traditional healing, community mediation and reconciliation.

51. The particular situation of girls continues to require advocacy and new approaches. As disarmament and demobilization programmes are implemented, it is difficult to identify and gain access to women and girls who may have been abducted and taken as "wives" or dependants of the combatants. These women, girls and their children, often referred to as "camp followers", move from place to place with their abductors, perpetuating a cycle of dependence. In Sierra Leone, a special orientation programme has been developed for women accompanying the combatants to provide information on reproductive health, sexual violence, family tracing, skills training and other subjects. It is hoped that this will encourage abductees to come forward. Support programmes are in place for girls under 18 and their children identified through these efforts, but there continues to be a gap in support to victims over the age of 18 because of the absence of appropriately targeted programmes.

C. Demobilization and reintegration in the midst of conflict: avoiding the risk of re-recruitment

52. Recent efforts to demobilize child soldiers in the midst of conflict have been undertaken in Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, and the Sudan. Such efforts are crucial: demobilization of children is a necessity that cannot be held hostage to political developments. In each instance, prevention of re-recruitment or re-enlistment has been an overwhelming concern. Such prevention cannot occur, however, without putting into place adequately resourced structures and programmes for receiving demobilized child combatants and ensuring their sustainable rehabilitation.

53. A revived economic infrastructure with opportunities for youth can be crucial to the immediate success of a demobilization and reintegration programme. Armed conflicts offer economic opportunities that can entice children to enlist as soldiers, generating a cycle that can only be broken by viable economic alternatives. Demobilized Liberian child soldiers who lacked productive skills or found

their skills unmarketable in a shattered economy were quickly re-absorbed into fighting forces in the region and elsewhere or employed in the illicit exploitation and trafficking of minerals and resources. Former child soldiers are at higher risk of being re-recruited than other children because they are already trained. What is required is a long-term perspective and adequate resources to prevent re-recruitment, combined with an understanding of the local perceptions of former combatants.

54. Children separated from their families are at extreme risk for recruitment or re-recruitment into armed forces and groups. UNHCR, UNICEF, ICRC and a number of non-governmental organizations have launched efforts in conflict zones to prevent separations, quickly identify separated children and reunite them with their families in a timely manner. Such programmes are hampered by ongoing violence, however, as the killing of six ICRC workers last April has shown. The extent of continuing recruitment means that, even after efforts to reunite these children with their families and rehabilitate them, they are at the risk of re-recruitment. There have been numerous reports of children being recruited and abducted in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, taken to neighbouring countries for training and then brought back to fight in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Some have reportedly been abducted from the streets of neighbouring countries.

55. Successful demobilization and reintegration is acknowledged as a key determinant of future stability and demobilization and reintegration of child soldiers features prominently among the concerns of policy makers and programme implementers. However, it remains for the parties to the conflict to desist from recruiting, to ensure access to existing child soldiers, and to refrain from re-recruiting demobilized children. Only then can the international community advance with demobilization and reintegration programmes on the scale necessary to ensure successful family reunification and reintegration to civilian life for the many thousands of children believed fighting today.

Action points

14. Given the centrality of demobilization and reintegration programming to breaking the cycle of violence for children, the provision of adequate resources for such programming is crucial. The Security Council and Member States are urged to provide sustained and adequate resources to all relevant actors, in particular peace operations, United Nations entities and non-governmental organizations, engaged in implementing demobilization and reintegration programmes for children.

15. Regional organizations and relevant bodies are encouraged to institute close and consistent mapping of cross-border activity pertaining to the recruitment and abduction of children and to prioritize on their agendas the curbing of such activity.

VII. HIV/AIDS, children and conflict

56. Armed conflict facilitates the spread and aggravates the impact of HIV/AIDS. Many of the countries most affected by HIV/AIDS are currently in situations of conflict or are hosting large numbers of refugees. The ways in which HIV spreads in situations of conflict include sexual violence perpetrated by government and rebel forces; economic desperation that forces women and children to engage in sex for survival; and mass displacement into refugee and internally displaced camps where crowding, unsafe camp structures, violence and high levels of sexual activity exacerbate the spread of the virus. Recent trends in warfare have seen rape used as a strategic weapon. In addition, sexual exploitation of girls and women increases during times of conflict. According to MONUC, in one village in Kivu, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, 2,000 out of a population of 30,000 displaced persons are women victims of rape. At the same time, conflict inhibits responses to HIV/AIDS by breaking down communication, health and education systems that support HIV prevention, care and treatment and by impeding the realization of the human rights of certain groups and individuals.

57. In January 2000, the Security Council discussed AIDS in Africa as a threat to international peace and security, highlighting the devastating impact of AIDS, where entire communities are left without teachers, farmers or health providers, and children are orphaned and left to fend for themselves. Subsequently, in its resolution 1308 (2000), the Council explicitly recognized that the HIV/AIDS pandemic was exacerbated by armed conflict. The Council also urged Member States to consider voluntary HIV/AIDS testing and counselling for troops to be deployed in

peacekeeping operations, and expressed concern at the potentially damaging impact of HIV/AIDS on the health of international peacekeeping personnel. In response to the resolution, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations collaborated with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) to issue HIV/AIDS awareness cards for peacekeepers. The core child protection training package (see para. 33) will include education and training on HIV/AIDS prevention for all peacekeeping personnel. Member States have been already requested to undertake such training prior to deployment when possible and to encourage military-to-military training on HIV/AIDS prior to deployment.

58. In addition to those efforts to create an international framework on the issue, networks have been developed for collaboration between government ministries, civil society and United Nations entities. The 1996 guidelines for HIV interventions in emergency settings have been revised, and several other practical guidelines have been developed by UNHCR, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Civil-Military Alliance to Combat HIV and AIDS. Commendable efforts have been made in some regions by United Nations entities and non-governmental organizations to reduce sexual violence and the economic vulnerability of displaced populations, provide AIDS education in schools, screen blood, strengthen community support for orphans, distribute condoms, and provide voluntary and confidential testing and counselling.

59. Some problems, however, persist. Governments, for the most part, are not extending strategic national plans on HIV/AIDS to areas of conflict. Humanitarian non-governmental organizations often do not have the capacity or training to work on HIV prevention and care and AIDS non-governmental organizations are not sufficiently involved in conflict areas. Interventions that are known to be effective in non-conflict settings, such as sexual education for young persons and prevention of mother-to-child transmissions, are often missing in zones of conflict. Similarly, programmes to reduce levels of stigma and discrimination faced by people living with, orphaned or made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS are rare, thus inhibiting willingness to seek out voluntary and confidential counselling and testing.

60. HIV education has been undertaken in the context of demobilization in some regions, but not in others. Refugees International reports that HIV/AIDS education is almost non-existent in demobilization, disarmament, reintegration and repatriation programmes in Sierra Leone. In Ethiopia, 55,000 troops were demobilized within the past year, but were given only two hours of HIV education, not sufficient to affect behaviour change. Demobilization of troops presents an organized opportunity to intervene, before troops disperse and return to their families.

Action points

16. Future Security Council field missions may decide to include an assessment of the HIV/AIDS situation, with particular focus on the impact of that situation on children.

17. I appeal to the Security Council, Member States, humanitarian organizations and donors to mainstream HIV/AIDS awareness, prevention, care and support into emergency humanitarian assistance and demobilization, disarmament, reintegration and repatriation programmes, including those for male and female child soldiers. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations will be encouraged to continue to provide appropriate guidance and support to peacekeeping personnel, and humanitarian agencies are urged to do the same for their personnel.

18. I urge that sexual violence against women and children continue to be prosecuted as a war crime in domestic and international forums. The spread of a practice that degrades women and children, increases the spread of HIV, and thus destabilizes regions for future generations cannot be tolerated.

VIII. Addressing impunity and redressing abuse: the involvement and protection of children in truth- and justice-seeking processes

61. In recent years the Security Council has called on parties to conflict to respect applicable international humanitarian and human rights law, stressed the obligation of States to prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, and vigorously denounced the institutionalization of impunity through amnesty legislation and provisions (resolution 1314 (2000)). The Council has committed

itself to acting in response to egregious violations of international humanitarian law as applicable to children, and to ensure accountability for serious crimes in particular conflict areas. In 1999 and 2000, the Council reaffirmed its readiness to consider appropriate responses whenever civilian populations, or buildings or sites that usually had a significant presence of children, were targeted in situations of armed conflict, in violation of international law (resolutions 1261 (1999) and 1314 (2000)). Most recently, the Council stressed that those responsible for violations of international human rights and humanitarian law, including massacres and atrocities, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo would be held accountable (resolution 1355 (2001)).

62. Member States, the United Nations system and many international non-governmental organizations now explicitly agree that, to help construct a foundation for post-conflict peace and stability, and to begin to redress the suffering of the victims, those responsible for war crimes and other grave abuses must be exposed, held individually accountable and, if possible or appropriate, punished for their actions. Moreover, mechanisms intended to reveal truth and impart justice should contribute to the design of reparation programmes for victims and structural reforms to ensure that such events do not recur. The international community and concerned States must consider which processes or mechanisms might be best suited to achieve those outcomes. When children are involved as victims, witnesses or perpetrators of such terrible crimes, very special consideration must be given to the manner in which their experiences are documented and portrayed; whether the children themselves may be involved in truth- and justice-seeking processes; and what redress those processes may bring for traumatized children, their families and societies.

63. The Security Council's commitment to combating impunity for egregious abuse of children's rights in the context of armed conflict has been most visible this past year in the case of Sierra Leone. At the request of the Security Council, a Special Court for Sierra Leone, which will seek to prosecute those bearing the greatest responsibility for crimes against humanity and war crimes, including those involving children, is being established by agreement between the United Nations and the Government of Sierra Leone (resolution 1315 (2000)). A Truth and Reconciliation Commission, called for by the Lomé Peace Agreement of 1999, is being formed; it will seek to establish a historical record of egregious human rights violations during the conflict, and pay particular attention to the experiences of children. Previous and existing truth commissions or war crimes tribunals have not directly addressed those experiences.

64. In August 2000, as drafting commenced on an agreement with the Government of Sierra Leone to create the Special Court, it became apparent that the way in which the Court's statute would address gross abuses perpetrated against and by children would be a matter of contention and international concern. The Security Council strongly endorsed the proposal that the Court be empowered to prosecute the war crime of recruitment or use of children under the age of 15 by armed forces or groups. The Special Court should help to consolidate consensus on the definition of the war crime of recruitment in international criminal law. Moreover, the prosecution of those who recruit children should highlight the complexities of the issues regarding the use of children as soldiers and, ideally, deter such criminal conduct in the future.

65. International organizations, child rights advocates and non-governmental organizations disagreed, however, on whether, and how, children who participated in the commission of war crimes while serving with armed groups should be dealt with in judicial proceedings. The possible prosecution of children, and young adults who were children at the time of the crime, brought the issues of culpability, justice and impunity, and of individual and social healing, into focus for the national and international community and compelled an important debate.

66. The Security Council, after much deliberation and consultation, agreed that, should any person who was between 15 and 18 years of age at the time of the alleged commission of the crime come before the Court, he or she should be treated with dignity and a sense of worth and in accordance with international human rights standards. In the disposition of the case, imprisonment shall not be an option, but rather the Court shall determine which alternative programme or service is most appropriate. The parameters of juvenile justice have thus been retained. Members of the Council also noted that prosecutions of juveniles were extremely unlikely, and encouraged other institutions such as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to develop specific provisions related to juvenile

offenders and victims (see S/2000/1234 and S/2001/95). While it is explicitly agreed that the Truth and Reconciliation Commission will play an important role in the case of juvenile offenders in Sierra Leone, there is no precedent to follow to ensure that those children will avail themselves of, or benefit from, the voluntary procedures of the Commission. To address that issue, a technical meeting on children and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission was organized by UNICEF, UNAMSIL and the National Forum for Human Rights at Freetown, from 4 to 6 June 2001, to develop guidelines and special procedures for the involvement and protection of children in the work of the Commission. The report will be submitted for consideration by the commissioners and will be made available to the members of the Council. Both the Special Court and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission will require adequate resources to ensure that all children are involved in appropriate and helpful ways in their proceedings, that appropriate expert staff are retained and that all Truth and Reconciliation Commission personnel working with children or their families are appropriately trained and supervised.

67. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the Special Court have distinct but mutually supporting functions and both should help to achieve accountability and to shed light on the context in which the most serious crimes have been perpetrated against, and sometimes by, children in Sierra Leone. Recent events have revealed, however, that little is known at the international level about the ways in which juvenile justice or truth-telling procedures can help to heal children exposed to or involved in armed conflict. The Office of my Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, UNICEF, non-governmental organizations and individual experts are joining forces to address the outstanding questions in need of urgent attention if the positive potential of truth commissions and war crimes tribunals is to be harnessed for the benefit of war-affected children in Sierra Leone and elsewhere.

68. In East Timor, a Truth, Reception and Reconciliation Commission has been established and is expected to begin its work late in 2001. The Commission should facilitate community reconciliation agreements for those who committed less serious offences, while serious crimes, including murder, rape and organizing violence, will remain the jurisdiction of the formal justice system. The Commission will indeed inquire into violations against children and can be expected to make specific recommendations on children to the Government. Children should also benefit from the process of community reconciliation.

Action points

19. Attention is called to the recommendations recently made in the Security Council on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, in which both the Council and the General Assembly were urged to provide sufficient and sustained funding for international truth- and justice-seeking efforts, and to provide for such efforts within the mandates of peacekeeping mandates.

20. Member States, parties to armed conflict and other concerned actors are called upon to ensure that the truth- and justice-seeking processes envisaged in the aftermath of conflict pay systematic attention to the full range of children's war-time experiences, the circumstances that allowed such abuses to occur and the long-term interventions required to ensure rehabilitation and reintegration.

IX. Peace-building for children during and after conflict

69. The challenge and the costs of ensuring sustained access to health care, schooling and vocational training and future employment opportunities for children and youth in a conflict or post-conflict situation cannot be overstated. The failure to address those concerns as early as possible during an armed conflict, and subsequently during the peacemaking process, and the lack of resources to implement any child protection provisions in a peace agreement can generate future cycles of violence and instability.

70. An important element of an appropriate post-conflict response is the strengthening of local capacity to address post-conflict child protection concerns. Areas in which local capacity is crucial to ensuring sustainable child protection include child rights law and policy reform, strengthening of the juvenile justice and child welfare systems, and the psychosocial recovery of children exposed to armed conflict. Such efforts could be successfully marshalled through the formation, with international facilitation, of local and national commissions or committees that can articulate

and advance the relevant issues at all appropriate times. UNMIBH is monitoring and providing training for local police officials to address the trafficking of children for forced prostitution, inadequate police response to reports of domestic abuse involving children, and inadequate protection of children in police custody, detention facilities and prisons. After the 1998-1999 civil war in Guinea-Bissau, UNOGBIS encouraged the Government to create an Institute for Children and Women. The Institute is taking a leading role in drawing attention to post-conflict concerns of children and women, including prostitution, HIV/AIDS, the care of war orphans and the lack of educational and vocational opportunities for youth.

71. The manner in which wars are brought to a close can have lasting implications for peace and stability and for the well-being of children. Amnesties, truth commissions and judicial remedies for war-time abuses, typically negotiated during peace processes, all affect the mental health of children and their caretakers, with potentially volatile implications for generations to come. Failure to comply with the Security Council's call for an end to impunity for egregious war crimes can indeed have long-term implications for social reconciliation and stability. A broad amnesty adopted by peacemakers in the Republic of the Congo in 1999 precluded any prosecutions for war crimes, including against women and children. The United Nations country team in the Republic of the Congo notes a heightened sense of trauma and helplessness among victims living amid their war-time abusers. The long-term volatility of victims' mistrust of the judicial system, fear of their aggressors and lack of a venue within which to give voice to the injustices they have suffered should not be underestimated.

72. The Security Council has expressed its concern for continued access to basic social services during conflict and post-conflict periods (resolution 1314 (2000)). In armed conflict settings, education programmes can offer structure, stability and continuity for children and their communities. In addition, educational opportunities can mitigate the risk of enlistment or forced recruitment of children under 18 years of age, and can help to smooth the transition to civilian life for former child soldiers. Clearly such programmes must seek to include and address the concerns of girls. Educational programmes can help introduce awareness of HIV/AIDS prevention, child rights protection and advocacy and landmines. In Sierra Leone, for example, a Community Education Investment Programme has been developed by UNICEF to provide reintegration assistance for former child combatants in a manner that benefits the community and not just the individual child or family. Packages of teaching, learning and recreation supplies are provided to schools for each former child combatant enrolled in the school. The supplies are utilized by all students and teachers in the school, and reduce resentment that may develop when preferential treatment is given to only a few, thus helping to create a welcoming environment for the ex-child combatants.

73. Given the importance of such assistance, the Panel on United Nations Peacekeeping Operations proposed that heads of United Nations peace operations have flexibility to fund quick impact projects that make a real difference in the lives of people in the mission area. Though a fraction of the overall investment by the United Nations country team, UNMEE is the first peace operation to incorporate quick impact project funding into its budget and has already approved 50 infrastructure rebuilding projects focusing largely on health care and school repairs.

74. Some national health and education systems, as in Liberia, have fallen into decay over decades of strife and neglect, but others suffer the effects of lingering tensions, unresolved feuds and lack of donor confidence or commitment long after the fighting stops. Sometimes the messages conveyed under the guise of schooling can keep the fires of intolerance and resentment smouldering. UNMEE is currently producing a report on discriminatory practices that deny access to health care and schooling in both Eritrea and Ethiopia.

75. In addition, flows of small arms can significantly jeopardize peace-building efforts. In the last 12 months there have been a number of international initiatives to address the human cost of the uncontrolled trade in small arms and light weapons. United Nations humanitarian agencies as well as numerous international non-governmental organizations have joined efforts to document and remedy the fact that the presence and use of such arms have killed and disabled the most vulnerable civilians, in particular children and women, and facilitated the recruitment and use of children as soldiers. The United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects was held in New York from 9 to 20 July 2001. The Conference served a number of important

functions, two of which bear direct relevance to children affected by armed conflict. It offered an opportunity to build awareness among a broad range of actors on the nexus between small arms and the adverse impact of armed conflict on children, and it served as a first step to address the issue at a global level. I would like to encourage Member States to continue to work on the issues that are especially important to the protection of children in the context of the proliferation of small arms.

76. Peace-building for children must begin at the earliest feasible point in an armed conflict situation. Peacemakers must ensure that child-conscious institutional strengthening efforts are provided for during peace negotiations, and the international community must help to ensure adequate and sustained resource allocation.

Action points

21. The Security Council and Member States are urged to consider specific means of involving local communities in war-affected areas in the development and implementation of the post-conflict response, in particular those aspects that pertain to the rehabilitation of children affected by armed conflict.

22. Member States are called upon to establish codes of conduct to improve restraints on the transfer of small arms and light weapons, in particular to conflict zones where children's rights are violated and they are used as soldiers. The Security Council may wish to promote a culture of peace, including through support for peace education programmes and other non-violent approaches to conflict resolution, in its peace-building activities.

X. Regional responses to child protection concerns

77. Although most of today's conflicts are defined as internal, almost all have regional implications, with the involvement of neighbouring countries. Abuses that have cross-border parameters such as the recruitment and abduction of children for use as soldiers, prostitutes and slaves require regional and subregional solutions.

78. In April 2001, ECOWAS concluded an agreement to establish its Child Protection Unit with initial support from the Government of Canada. The Unit will ensure the integration of child protection mechanisms into all relevant ECOWAS institutions. It will also advocate and facilitate the full implementation of the Accra Declaration and Plan of Action on War-Affected Children agreed upon by ECOWAS, and other regional and international instruments on the rights of the child.

79. The Pan African Forum on Children, held in May 2001 under the auspices of the Organization of African Unity at Cairo, adopted a Declaration and Plan of Action that foresees special measures for the protection of children affected by armed conflict. The Organization of African Unity is intensifying its efforts to promote adherence to and implementation of the Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the African Child.

80. In recognition of the need for a regional approach to child protection in the Great Lakes region of Africa, the Security Council called for the inclusion of child protection issues in the agendas of all bilateral, regional and international dialogues in the region (resolution 1355 (2001)). My Special Representative is working closely with my Special Envoy for the Great Lakes region to ensure that child protection issues are given prominence in the agenda of the proposed conference for the region. However, the lack of a subregional institution in the Great Lakes has been a drawback in efforts to build momentum for this process. The onus is on the United Nations to create and sustain the necessary political environment to develop a "neighbourhood" child protection initiative that can be systematically implemented in the subregion. UNICEF offices in the region and the child protection advisers in MONUC have developed a regional strategy to prevent the cross-border recruitment of child soldiers and collaborate closely in demobilization and reintegration efforts. Through their combined efforts, a significant number of child soldiers have been demobilized in the Great Lakes region in 2000.

81. During the fourth high-level meeting between the United Nations and regional organizations in February 2001, I sought to foster collaboration between the United Nations and regional organizations to promote a comprehensive approach to peace-building, which must include a regional approach to child protection.

82. In its resolution 1314 (2000), the Security Council called on regional organizations to take specific actions to protect children affected by armed conflict in their various regions. However, the human and financial capacity of many of those organizations to implement and sustain such initiatives is severely limited. It is important that the United Nations and the donor community ensure sufficient levels of technical and financial assistance to regional organizations demonstrating the political will to address child protection issues during and after armed conflict, but which do not have the means to do so.

Action point

23. Member States are urged to provide the technical support and resources necessary for regional organizations to fulfil their roles in the protection of children in situations of armed conflict.

XI. Concluding observations

83. Existing normative standards, including previous Security Council resolutions, have gone a long way towards defining the parameters of acceptable conduct for parties to armed conflict as far as children and other civilians are concerned. Member States, the United Nations system and regional organizations have all been bound or solicited to take concrete steps to improve the protection of war-affected children. I have sought in the present report to describe progress made in the implementation of existing Security Council resolutions and identify areas where further action is needed. As delegations gather for the special session of the General Assembly on children, I sincerely hope that Member States, the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations, civil society and others will take decisive action to protect children and to actively dissuade, and seek to expose and sanction, those whose actions are beyond the pale. This is a matter of international cooperation and political will, and it is my hope that concrete commitments will be made by the Security Council and Member States such that all parties to armed conflict, and actors whose conduct indirectly fuels conflict, cannot but realize that the international community will accept nothing less than full compliance with child protection obligations and commitments in time of war and in its aftermath.

United Nations A/55/1032–S/2001/853

General Assembly
Security Council

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7 September 2001

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-fifth session
Item 64
Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 6 September 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 6 September 2001, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Aytuğ Plümer, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 64, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Şafak **Göktürk**
First Counsellor
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

01-53130 (E) 130901

Annex to the letter dated 6 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I would like to refer to the letter dated 8 August 2001 (A/55/1026-S/2001/778) addressed to you by a Greek Cypriot delegate at the United Nations in connection with archaeological excavations in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, and to bring to your kind attention the following information.

The excavations carried out at the archaeological site of Salamis, which is situated within the sovereign territory of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, are carried out with the consent of the Turkish Cypriot authorities and, contrary to the Greek Cypriot allegations, are perfectly legal. These allegations stem from the false claim that the sovereignty of the Greek Cypriot administration extends over the whole island, including the territory of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. This claim does not correspond with the reality in Cyprus, namely the existence of two independent States, each exercising sovereignty and jurisdiction within their respective territories on the island.

It is ironic that the Greek Cypriot side perceives the efforts by the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus to bring to light any hidden archaeological artefacts and remains and to preserve them as having "an adverse and destructive effect on the cultural heritage of the island". This odd perception, in fact, is not surprising in view of the fact that the Greek Cypriot administration, hiding behind its false title as the "government of Cyprus", still refuses to accept the realities on the island and the right to statehood of the Turkish Cypriot people. The fact remains that the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus does not need the approval of the Greek Cypriot administration to carry out archaeological excavations on its own territory.

Despite the systematic blocking of the flow of any external financial or technical assistance to Northern Cyprus for conservation purposes by the Greek Cypriot side, the authorities of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus continue to work diligently to protect and preserve the cultural heritage of Northern Cyprus regardless of its origin. The archaeological excavations carried out at the site of Salamis are part of this effort to protect and to preserve the cultural heritage in our country for future generations.

It is noteworthy in this context that the Department of Antiquities and Museums of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus invited the French archaeological team of the University of Lyon to return to Salamis to continue the work they had conducted, at the request of the Greek Cypriot administration, until 1974. However, all the invitations remained unanswered. Other archaeologists who wished to collaborate with the Department of Antiquities and Museums out of purely professional interests also had to turn down invitations because of the Greek-Greek Cypriot political pressure and blackmail.

Under the prevailing circumstances, the Department of Antiquities and Museums of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus revived the project in 1998 under the provisions of the Antiquities Law of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and in accordance with relevant international principles and norms, in cooperation with the Research Centre for Archaeological and Cultural Heritage of the Eastern Mediterranean University in Gazi Mağusa, the Turkish Republic of

Northern Cyprus, and the Ankara and Middle East Technical Universities in Turkey. During the excavation works, carried out by a group of archaeologists headed by Professor Coşkun Özgünel of Ankara University, numerous artefacts belonging to the late Roman period have been excavated from the site, which dates back to 1100 B.C., and all findings are being preserved in line with internationally set standards. During the process, a number of important historical structures have been exposed, such as the eastern front of the Roman Agora and the Roman Baths, which were destroyed in the aftermath of an earthquake.

The Greek Cypriot administration, which attempts to present itself as the champion of conservation of cultural heritage, has, since 1963, been trying to eradicate all traces of the Turkish-Muslim heritage of Cyprus. During the period from 1963 to 1974, mosques, shrines and other holy sites in Turkish villages all around the island were destroyed by the Greek Cypriots. Today the remaining Ottoman Turkish shrines in South Cyprus have been targets of repeated arson attacks. For instance, on 3 December 2000, there was an arson attack on the Ömeriye Mosque, a significant Muslim shrine located in South Cyprus. Furthermore, owing to the Greek Cypriot administration's deliberate policy of total neglect, the Turkish-Muslim heritage in South Cyprus is under threat of disintegration. This utter disrespect for the Turkish-Islamic heritage has also been confirmed by independent sources, including Mr. Ymenus van der Werff, General Rapporteur of the Subcommittee on the Architectural and Artistic Heritage of the Committee of Culture and Education of the Council of Europe, who reported the following in his report published as a document of the Council of Europe on 2 July 1989 (AS/CULT/AA (41) (1), para. 5.3):

> "We noted with regret the complete destruction of the main mosque in Paphos. The whole area has since been flattened to give way for a widened road junction and a car park. There is no memorial to the existence of the mosque. Below the road a Turkish bath complex remains hidden in the rubble and vegetation awaiting restoration. The Turkish Cypriot cemetery by the nearby St. Sophia Mouttalos Mosque is dilapidated".

The Greek Cypriot delegate has also referred in his letter to the recent judgement of the European Court of Human Rights on the fourth application of the Greek Cypriot administration in an attempt to attribute responsibility to Turkey for the actions of the Government of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. In previous letters addressed to you, the Turkish Cypriot side has expounded its position with regard to the above judgement. I will therefore confine myself to reiterating that decisions that turn a blind eye to the illegal and illegitimate status of the Greek Cypriot administration while treating the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus as non-existent cannot change the fact that the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is a sovereign and independent State and that its Government is the only legitimate authority exercising jurisdiction in Northern Cyprus. Furthermore, attributing responsibility to Turkey, which has no jurisdiction in Northern Cyprus, and referring to the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus as Turkey's "subordinate local administration" can only make the Greek Cypriot administration more intransigent thus rendering your mission of good offices even more difficult to pursue.

With regard to the references by the Greek Cypriot delegate to "the occupied part of Cyprus" and "the Turkish invasion of 1974", I would like to reiterate that

Turkey intervened in Cyprus following the Greek coup d'état of 15 July 1974 to put an end to the invasion and occupation of the island by Greece. The Turkish intervention was carried out in accordance with Turkey's rights and obligations under the 1960 Treaty of Guarantee. Today Turkey, in accordance with the 1960 Treaty of Guarantee and with the content of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, remains to be the only deterrent against the aggression of the Greek Cypriot administration, which has been illegally occupying the seat of the 1960 partnership Republic of Cyprus since 1963.

Needless to say, the Greek Cypriot insistence on making baseless allegations against the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and Turkey, particularly at this sensitive stage, does not facilitate your good offices mission. Reconciliation in the island can be greatly facilitated if the Greek Cypriot side were to accept the reality that it is not the "government" of the whole of Cyprus and that it cannot interfere in the internal affairs of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. We trust that you will urge the Greek Cypriot administration to cease all such activities that would impede your efforts towards facilitating a process of reconciliation in the island.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 64, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Aytuğ **Plümer**
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

United Nations S/2001/854

Security Council

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7 September 2001
English
Original: English and French

Draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1160 (1998) of 31 March 1998, 1199 (1998) of 23 September 1998, 1203 (1998) of 24 October 1998, and reaffirming, in particular, its resolutions 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999 and 1345 (2001) of 21 March 2001,

Noting with satisfaction that the conditions listed in paragraph 16 (a) to (e) of its resolution 1160 (1998) have been satisfied,

Noting, in that respect, the letter of the Secretary-General dated 6 September 2001 (S/2001/849),

Noting further the difficult security situation along Kosovo's administrative boundary and parts of the border of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and emphasizing the continuing authority of the Secretary-General's Special Representative as head of the international civil presence and of the Commander of the international security presence (KFOR) to restrict and strictly control the flow of arms into, within and out of Kosovo, pursuant to resolution 1244 (1999),

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Decides* to terminate the prohibitions established by paragraph 8 of resolution 1160 (1998);

2. *Decides further* to dissolve the Committee established by paragraph 9 of resolution 1160 (1998).

01-53263 (E) 100901

United Nations A/ES-10/110–S/2001/855

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Security Council

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General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 7 September 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have been instructed to forward the enclosed letter sent to you from Yasser Arafat, President of the State of Palestine, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization and President of the Palestinian National Authority, dated 6 September 2001 (see annex).

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Marwan **Jilani**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

01-53096 (E) 070901 070901

Annex to the letter dated 7 September 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the measures (described in the attached text) taken by the Head of the Israeli Government to seal off the city of Al-Quds from the rest of the Palestinian territory, measures that constitute a dangerous and deliberate escalation which is part of the campaign of ethnic cleansing, strangulation, isolation and Judaization of the city of Al-Quds. These measures are aimed at consolidating and perpetuating the odious Israeli occupation of the Holy City and its Muslim and Christian holy places. They are also the culmination of a series of decisions which the Israeli Government has recently begun to implement, including the closure of Orient House and other Palestinian institutions in the city of Al-Quds al-Sharif.

This brutal and deliberate Israeli attack on the city of Al-Quds al-Sharif is another warning of the great danger that threatens the future of this Holy City and represents an attack on its religious, cultural and humanistic prestige aimed at definitively removing Al-Quds from the final settlement negotiations. It is also a flagrant attack on all believers in the world and a flagrant violation of the agreements that have been signed and of all the resolutions that represent international legitimacy, in particular the resolutions of the United Nations on Al-Quds.

This danger that threatens the city of Al-Quds al-Sharif requires the international community and all forces in the world that are committed to peace and justice to take a firm position and to urgently mobilize at their most effective and influential levels to oblige Israel to rescind the measures it has taken against Al-Quds al-Sharif. Israel's pursuit of this aggressive policy will further aggravate the already worsening situation in the region and utterly frustrate all the regional and international initiatives that are under way to salvage the peace process and to secure a resumption of the negotiations aimed at achieving a peace based on justice and equality, a peace that will bring an end to the Israeli occupation in all its forms and aspects of occupied Arab and Palestinian territories, foremost among which is Al-Quds al-Sharif.

In the difficult and decisive period that we are currently experiencing, we rely on your mobilization and valuable efforts to ensure the implementation of the United Nations resolutions on Palestine, and in particular those concerning Al-Quds al-Sharif, to ensure its return to Palestinian sovereignty as the capital of the independent State of Palestine.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(*Signed*) Yasser **Arafat**
President of the State of Palestine
Chairman of the Executive Committee
of the Palestine Liberation Organization
President of the Palestinian National Authority

Gaza

6/9/2001

Measures taken by the Head of the Israeli Government to seal off the city of Al-Quds from the rest of the Palestinian territory

The occupation authorities this morning (6 September 2001) began taking strict measures to seal off the city of Al-Quds from the surrounding areas of Palestine in a dangerous escalation decided upon two months ago by the inner Israeli cabinet.

This decision to seal off the city, which was announced by Mr. Sharon in Moscow yesterday, is one of a series of decisions which the occupation authorities have recently begun to implement, including the takeover of Orient House and the closure of several other Palestinian institutions in Al-Quds.

The measures which the Sharon Government has decided to implement may be summarized as follows:

(a) Sealing off of all areas adjacent to occupied Al-Quds, in particular the villages to the north-east and west of the city, and sealing them off from Bethlehem;

(b) Establishing checkpoints, reinforcing border crossings and declaring these areas to be closed military areas whose residents are not allowed access to the Holy City and preventing Palestinians from the other parts of the West Bank from travelling to the city;

(c) Digging trenches in all the roads leading to the city. The occupation forces have begun digging a trench between Al-Ayzariya and Attour as well as other trenches to seal off the villages situated north-west of Al-Quds from the village of Ras Khamees;

(d) Harassing and arresting residents of Al-Quds employed by the Palestinian National Authority or those that are connected in any way with the services of the Authority, confiscating their identity cards and expelling them from the city;

(e) Revoking the rights of some residents of Al-Quds and confiscating their identity cards;

(f) Forcing prominent Palestinians from Al-Quds to leave the city, especially senior political figures and religious dignitaries; and

(g) Placing surveillance cameras at checkpoints, starting with the occupied Al-Ram checkpoint.

The occupation forces have strengthened their presence throughout the Holy City and deployed large numbers of soldiers and policemen.

They have also erected numerous military checkpoints on roads into the city, especially on the road between Ramallah and Al-Quds, under the pretext of preventing the launching of attacks from East Jerusalem against Israeli targets.

Only residents of East Jerusalem are authorized to move freely about the city, which means that residents of the other Palestinian territories will not be able to

perform their prayers in the Al-Aqsa Mosque and in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and are not allowed to visit their relatives in Al-Quds.

According to Israeli security officials, these measures are aimed at changing the status of the city.

Directorate of Political Affairs

United Nations S/2001/856

Security Council

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7 September 2001
English
Original: Arabic

Letter dated 4 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I should like to draw your attention to an urgent question, namely the alarming situation resulting from Israeli troop concentrations on the southern border of Lebanon and in the Shab'a farmlands area.

The representative of Israel, in his letter addressed to you in document S/2001/831, dated 29 August 2001, attempted to justify the actions of Israel, in order to cover up its provocations by land, air and sea, which were combined with a field trip by the Prime Minister of Israel over the whole length of Lebanon's southern border, accompanied by his military command staff, in a new show of force involving a grave threat to international peace and security in the region.

I would draw your attention in this connection to the fact that Israel's provocations and vast troop concentrations come at a time when the South has been experiencing complete peace and stability for a number of weeks. It is strange that Israel should return to the language of threat and menace because of visits by peaceable Lebanese journalists and citizens to villages located on the Lebanese side of the international frontier and coming under Lebanese sovereignty and within the border area that was restored to the homeland after 22 years of loathsome occupation.

It is useful to recall that the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) is carrying out its activity normally, through intensive motorized patrols, and has not mentioned in its reports any breach of the peace prevailing in the area. These facts are confirmed by the statement of the official spokesman of UNIFIL, who has criticized the excessive troop concentrations and the turmoil that Israel is unjustifiably causing.

The above-mentioned letter from the representative of Israel contains many sophistries and lies. What presents a threat to peace and security in the area are its troop concentrations on the southern border and its daily provocations in and violations of Lebanese airspace, which create an atmosphere of tension among the peaceable citizens, and the convulsive statements of its officials in their attempt to divert attention to alleged and artificial points of tension, in order to cover up the acts of slaughter and destruction being perpetrated by the Israeli occupation forces in the occupied Palestinian territories.

01-53153 (E) 070901 070901

The situation which has arisen as a result of the ongoing Israeli troop concentrations and violations constitute, in fact, a blatant threat to peace and security in the area and a flagrant violation of Security Council resolution 425 (1978) and of Lebanese sovereignty by land, sea and air. Israel bears sole responsibility for the consequences. The United Nations is called upon to take the necessary steps to call upon Israel to withdraw its massed forces, to put an end to its ongoing threats and to restore the situation to normal.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sélim **Tadmoury**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations S/2001/857

Security Council

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7 September 2001

Original: English

Eleventh report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone

I. Introduction

1. By its resolution 1346 (2001) of 30 March 2001, the Security Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) for a period of six months, ending on 30 September 2001. In paragraph 5 of that resolution, the Council requested me to report at regular intervals on progress made by UNAMSIL in the implementation of key aspects of the Mission's concept of operations. The Council further requested me, in paragraph 15 of the resolution, to provide any additional recommendations, including, if necessary, for a further strengthening of the military component of UNAMSIL. The present report is submitted pursuant to those requests and covers developments since my tenth report on UNAMSIL, dated 25 June 2001 (S/2001/627).

II. Political developments

Implementation of the Abuja Agreement

2. The Sierra Leone peace process continued to make encouraging progress during the period under review. The disarmament of combatants of the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) and the Civil Defence Forces (CDF) has so far been completed in four districts, including the diamond-producing Kono district. With the exception of skirmishes between the Civil Defence Forces and RUF which marred the initial stages of the disarmament exercise in Kono district, the ceasefire has generally continued to hold. The cross-border fighting between RUF and the Guinean forces in the northern and eastern border areas has also ceased. In the meantime, the deployment of UNAMSIL now covers a considerable part of the country, including Kabala in the north and Koidu in the east. Consequently, more areas have become accessible to humanitarian workers and the civilian population, and the Government has taken steps, albeit modest, to restore civil authority in some areas formerly controlled by RUF.

3. The joint committee on disarmament, demobilization and reintegration comprising UNAMSIL, the Government of Sierra Leone and RUF held two meetings during the reporting period, the first in Bo on 17 July and the second in Kenema on 10 August. At the meeting in Bo it was agreed that, after the completion of the disarmament exercise in Kambia and Port Loko districts, the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme would begin in Kono and Bonthe districts in July, after which the exercise would be conducted in the following order: Koinadugu and Moyamba districts, Bombali and Bo, Tonkolili and Pujehun, and Kailahun and Kenema districts. The parties also agreed on a moratorium on diamond mining in order to facilitate the disarmament process in Kono district. Although the agreement on the moratorium is believed to have facilitated disarmament in that district, the parties have not been able to enforce the moratorium and illegal mining activities have continued.

4. At the meeting held in the town of Bo on 17 July, RUF requested the Government to facilitate its registration as a political party and to release some of the RUF officials detained during the crisis of May 2000. The Government indicated that it had offered RUF a plot of land in Freetown to enable the

01-52963 (E) 070901

movement to establish an office in the capital. It also recalled that 33 RUF detainees had been released on 7 July. RUF however claimed that many of the detainees released were not members of the movement.

5. At the meeting in Kenema on 10 August, the parties decided that disarmament would continue in Kono district until 17 August as there were still pockets of combatants in the district that were yet to disarm. They also decided that the disarmament exercise would start in Moyamba and Koinadugu districts on 15 August and 20 August respectively, and in Bombali and Bo districts in September. The discussion of other issues was facilitated by the Government's release on 9 August of 41 detainees, who included a former RUF-nominated Minister and a former chairman of RUF.

6. The Government and RUF have also taken additional reciprocal confidence-building measures, including the continuing release of abductees and child combatants by RUF, the participation by both sides in joint sensitization and reconciliation campaigns, the enrolment of some RUF ex-combatants in the military reintegration programme, the renewal of the provisional registration of the RUF Party by the National Electoral Commission and an invitation to the party to participate in discussions on the electoral process.

7. However, RUF has yet to return all the weapons and equipment seized from UNAMSIL and the Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS); no further items have been returned since the issuance of my last report. While the RUF leadership had indicated that they expected most of the rifles and other weapons to turn up during the disarmament exercise, so far only 31 UNAMSIL weapons and 148 ECOMOG weapons have been recovered during the disarmament process.

8. The Government of Sierra Leone has announced its intention to seek another six-month extension of its term of office as well as that of Parliament. Last February, Parliament had granted six-month extensions of the executive and the legislative branches of Government, which are due to expire on 30 September 2001 and 1 October 2001, respectively. The announcement of the Government's intention to seek a further extension prompted calls by RUF, some opposition and civil society groups and some of the local press for the establishment of an interim government of national unity to lead the country to the next elections. Some RUF officials also claimed that if an interim government is not established the movement might suspend the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process. The Government has however maintained that Sierra Leone's Constitution provides only for an extension of the mandate of the incumbent government. Therefore, in its view, establishing transitional arrangements would be unconstitutional.

Regional aspects

9. The progress made in the Sierra Leone peace process has had a positive impact on the situation in the whole Mano River region. Since the relaunching of the disarmament process in May 2001, no further cross-border fighting between RUF and Guinean armed forces has been reported in either the northern or the eastern border areas.

10. My Special Representative, Oluyemi Adeniji, has continued his regular consultations with regional leaders. On 7 August 2001, he took part in a meeting of Presidents Ahmad Tejan Kabbah of Sierra Leone, Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria and Alpha Oumar Konaré of Mali in which Lansana Kouyate, the Executive Secretary of ECOWAS, also participated. My Special Representative briefed the three leaders on the ongoing disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme and on the deployment of UNAMSIL, while Mr. Kouyate informed them of his recent visit to Liberia, the purpose of which was to resolve the conflict in Lofa County and promote national reconciliation in that country. President Kabbah informed his colleagues that he was generally satisfied with the progress of the disarmament process. He also elaborated on his intention to seek a further six-month extension of his Government's term of office.

11. At the end of their consultations, the three Presidents issued a statement in which they welcomed the progress made in the peace process in Sierra Leone. The statement also urged the continued support of the international community for the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme. On Liberia, the leaders expressed concern at the continued fighting in Lofa County and called on the Government to take further concrete steps towards national reconciliation.

12. At the invitation of President Kabbah, Presidents Konaré and Obasanjo visited Sierra Leone on 3 September. They travelled to Koidu, in Kono district, together with President Kabbah and my Special Representative. In Koidu the three leaders met with the RUF leader, Issa Sesay, as well as traditional leaders, civil society groups and the local populace. The occasion marked the first direct meeting between President Kabbah and Issa Sesay. During the meeting, the RUF leadership reiterated their commitment to the peace process, but repeated the concern of the members of the movement for their personal security after disarmament, and complained that they had not received the necessary assistance from the Government in their efforts to transform RUF into a political party. President Obasanjo offered to provide scholarships for eligible disarmed combatants to study in Nigeria. The two Presidents also called on the Government of Sierra Leone to assist RUF in transforming itself into a political party.

13. Encouraging prospects for direct dialogue between Presidents Conté, Taylor and Kabbah have emerged from a meeting held at Monrovia from 13 to 15 August 2001 by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. The Ministers reaffirmed the will of their respective Governments to make the Mano River Union an organization capable of promoting social and economic integration. They also recommended the early convening of a summit meeting of their heads of State.

14. In preparation for that summit meeting, a meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security of the three Mano River Union countries was held at Freetown on 22 and 23 August 2001 to review the security situation in the Mano River Union subregion. A follow-up meeting of Foreign Ministers is to be held at Conakry on 10 September to prepare the draft agenda and propose a date and venue for the proposed summit meeting.

III. Military and security situation

15. While the overall military and security situation in Sierra Leone remained calm and stable during the reporting period, there were, as indicated earlier, a few skirmishes in Kono district between RUF and elements of the Civil Defence Forces, known as the Donsos, who apparently operate outside the CDF national chain of command. Of 24 reported clashes, 10 have been investigated by UNAMSIL while the remaining allegations were assessed to be lacking in substance. Of the 10 investigations conducted, 4 incidents were confirmed as attacks initiated by CDF and one by RUF.

16. In order to defuse tension between RUF and the Civil Defence Forces, UNAMSIL, together with the parties and the Paramount Chiefs, initiated a series of visits to the trouble spots in Kono district, where they successfully disarmed RUF and CDF combatants. Similar trouble-shooting efforts were undertaken to address some skirmishes that occurred in the first phase of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration exercise in Koinadugu in August.

17. The Sierra Leone Army continued its short-term training and restructuring with the assistance of the United Kingdom's short-term training team. It is expected that by the end of September 2001, all Sierra Leone Army troops, with the exception of those being recruited under the military reintegration programme, will have completed basic training. While there has been no further deployment of the Sierra Leone Army to the provinces during this reporting period, its area of operations has been expanded, as resupply convoys have travelled from Freetown to Kabala and Bumbuna, with the assistance of UNAMSIL and in coordination with RUF.

IV. Deployment of the Mission

18. Since my last report, UNAMSIL troop strength has increased to 16,664 (as at 5 September 2001). The first battalion from Pakistan was deployed in full to Yengema and Koidu on 5 August, the latter location serving as the headquarters of the Mission's newly established sector V. The battalion relieved two companies of the Bangladeshi battalion who had spearheaded UNAMSIL deployment into that area. At the same time, elements of the Bangladeshi contingent were deployed to Kabala in the Northern Province on 9 August to prepare for the start of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration activities in that area. At present, UNAMSIL patrols reach most areas of Sierra Leone. More comprehensive coverage will be achieved with the arrival of the Nepalese battalion, the advance elements of which will be deployed by the end of September.

19. UNAMSIL military observers, numbering some 242, have played a crucial role in the disarmament

process by receiving, screening and processing the combatants as well as developing the local disarmament arrangements with the faction commanders. The observer teams have also contributed to the sensitization of combatants and the population on disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and reconciliation, and have continued to play an important verification and confidence-building role.

20. Consultations with troop-contributing countries have continued throughout the reporting period with both formal and informal meetings. These have resulted in some tangible efforts to redress shortfalls in contingent-owned equipment with recent arrivals of large quantities of vehicles and other essential materiel, which have increased the capabilities of the contingents concerned.

V. Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration

21. As indicated above, the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process has made remarkable progress. Since the programme resumed on 18 May, a total of 16,097 (6,523 RUF, 9,399 CDF and 175 AFRC/ex-Sierra Leone Army) combatants had been disarmed as at 3 September, out of an estimated 25,000. A total of 6,502 weapons and 728,058 assorted pieces of ammunition have so far been collected.

22. After the disarmament exercise in Kambia and Port Loko districts, the programme was launched simultaneously in Kono and Bonthe districts on 1 July and concluded on 17 August. A total of 5,451 combatants (3,478 RUF and 1,973 CDF) disarmed in the volatile Kono district. The programme was subsequently launched in Moyamba and Koinadugu districts, on 15 and 20 August respectively. If the current pace is sustained, the disarmament process in the remaining six districts could be completed by November/December 2001.

Reintegration

23. The National Commission on Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration now has four regional reintegration offices, in Freetown, Port Loko, Bo and Kenema, and plans to open two more to facilitate support for demobilized ex-combatants. Through these offices, the Commission has so far provided reintegration assistance to 10,632 ex-combatants who include those disarmed in previous phases of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme. This assistance takes the form of vocational training and apprenticeship schemes, assistance for agricultural production, formal education, and public works activities.

24. The programme provides two types of post-discharge assistance for ex-combatants, namely, a short-term reinsertion package and a medium-term reintegration opportunity. Currently, the provision of the reinsertion package that was accepted by donors at the Paris conference held in June 2001 has been delayed because of insufficient funding. While the newly pledged resources to the Multi-donor Trust Fund of approximately US $13.9 million are welcome, this amount falls short of the estimated overall programme funding gap of $32.7 million. Several bilateral development agencies and United Nations agencies are identifying and implementing quick impact projects for ex-combatants until the reinsertion benefits and reintegration opportunities are available. In addition, low-cost, labour-intensive projects are being identified for ex-combatants to be funded through the United Nations Trust Fund for Sierra Leone or the National Commission on Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration.

25. The screening of ex-combatants for the military reintegration programme has been completed for 544 ex-combatants who were disarmed in Kambia and Port Loko districts and 318 of them (150 RUF, 106 CDF and 62 AFRC/ex-Sierra Leone Army) were selected for training, which began on 30 July. The Sierra Leone Army is considering setting up temporary selection centres at locations throughout the country to speed up the process in districts other than Kono.

VI. Extension of State authority

26. A timetable for the progressive restoration of State authority to newly accessible districts is being developed. The extension of the Government's authority following disarmament will initially involve the deployment of the Sierra Leone police and key Government officials, accompanied by a recovery programme to meet urgent humanitarian and rehabilitation requirements. However, because of the extensive damage resulting from the war, as well as an

acute shortage of trained officials, the return to normalcy will not be accomplished quickly.

27. The Government has set up a National Recovery Committee under the chairmanship of the Vice-President, in order to better coordinate the extension activities with all stakeholders and set priorities for humanitarian action and the rehabilitation of government infrastructure in newly accessible areas. The Committee brings together all major partners, including the Ministries of Development and Economic Planning, Finance and Local Government, donor representatives, United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations. Benchmarks have been defined in order to assist the Committee in measuring progress in the restoration of State authority in newly accessible areas. Such benchmarks will include the presence in the district of recognized Paramount Chiefs; the deployment of the Sierra Leone police; the return of key Government officials; the progressive opening of schools; and the reopening of local courts.

28. As indicated in my last report, the Sierra Leone police force has now successfully deployed to Lunsar and areas of Kambia district. A deployment to Makeni had also been coordinated with RUF, but has been delayed to allow further sensitization of RUF rank and file as disarmament has not yet started there.

29. The deployment of the Sierra Leone police in Kono district is now being prepared with the assistance of UNAMSIL. This is an important task and will constitute a substantial challenge, given the lack of infrastructure and more importantly the need to regulate diamond mining activities. UNAMSIL continues to encourage the Government to develop a comprehensive plan for the management of the diamond mines. The Government is currently reviewing various options for the management of mining concessions.

30. Other initiatives aimed at supporting State services are gradually developing in newly accessible areas, supported by United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, supported by UNICEF, is exploring ways to re-establish education in Kambia and Kono districts. UNICEF is also supporting district education teams in Bombali, Tonkolili and Kono districts. The World Food Programme continues to provide emergency food aid for the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme.

Reconciliation process

31. In July 2001, UNAMSIL facilitated the first consultative meeting organized by the Commission for the Consolidation of Peace in Kambia district. The meeting underlined the importance of community reconciliation and the reintegration of ex-combatants and returnees. In Lunsar, housing committees have been established to settle, in an amicable way, disputes arising from the illegal occupation of properties.

Rehabilitation

32. The improved security situation has allowed a gradual return of the displaced population and a revival of economic activity, especially in the towns in areas where UNAMSIL has deployed. Bilateral donors and United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and UNAMSIL are supporting rehabilitation of health, education and local administration structures, skills training, human rights-related activities and other activities targeted at ex-combatants and returnees. Faced with the influx of displaced populations returning to their areas of origin, UNAMSIL troops have often had to strain their own resources to meet some of the immediate needs of the populations in their areas of deployment. New resources are urgently required for the Trust Fund to support a renewed effort through short-term quick impact projects that will assist, in coordination with humanitarian and development agencies, the restoration of civil authority, the reintegration of ex-combatants into society, the resettlement of war-affected populations and the resumption of economic activities.

HIV/AIDS

33. In accordance with Security Council resolution 1308 (2000), a focal point for HIV/AIDS was appointed within UNAMSIL. To date, UNAMSIL has conducted a sensitization campaign, which has reached several thousand troops in the Freetown area and several field sites. In addition, the campaign unit has started condom distribution to both military and civilian personnel of the Mission. UNAMSIL is also in the process of designing a programme that will target the civilian population.

VII. Public information

34. During the reporting period, UNAMSIL public information activities continued with a view to sensitizing the population to the mandate and operations of the Mission, while focusing on the promotion of the disarmament and the truth and reconciliation processes. To help convey these messages, UNAMSIL sponsored performances by local theatre groups and musicians for ex-combatants. The Mission also sponsored a two-week training workshop for media practitioners. Radio UNAMSIL has further expanded its FM and short-wave programming in local languages and its production facilities.

VIII. Elections

35. As indicated in my last report, Sierra Leone's National Electoral Commission had drawn up a strategic plan and an electoral timetable which envisaged the holding of elections in December 2001. However, on 5 September the Government announced that the parliamentary and presidential elections will now be held on 14 May 2002. Consultations with parliamentarians and political parties on the electoral system for the elections are still ongoing.

United Nations role in support of elections

36. On 10 June, the National Electoral Commission addressed a letter to my Special Representative, requesting the United Nations to provide technical and logistical assistance in support of the elections. Subsequently, I dispatched a high-level electoral needs assessment mission to Sierra Leone, which visited the country from 18 to 28 August. After the findings and recommendations of the assessment mission have been considered, an operational plan for the role of UNAMSIL in supporting the elections will be developed.

37. It is already obvious, however, that the pre- and post-electoral period will require effective security arrangements and coordination among all entities involved in the electoral process. The capacity of national security agencies to perform these functions will have to be further assessed and supported as much as possible. In this context, the UNAMSIL military component will be expected to provide robust umbrella security throughout the country during the electoral period, while the United Nations civilian police may be required to provide expanded support by monitoring and advising the Sierra Leone police.

38. In order to enable UNAMSIL to carry out the tasks of providing security and logistical assistance for the elections, the force requirements are being further reviewed. It will then be necessary to determine whether the military strength of the Mission needs to exceed the current established ceiling of 17,500 troops. If it does, any increase is likely to be mainly for the purpose of adding the much needed specialist support capabilities, primarily for operations in the provinces for a limited period of time. Most likely, these would include logistical assets, especially construction engineering to facilitate the access and deployment of UNAMSIL and transportation, including helicopter support, for the movement of election observers and electoral materials. Any such assets will have to be deployed by the beginning of 2002. I will revert to the Council with appropriate recommendations once the comprehensive operational plan has been drawn up. The plan will include clear delineation of security responsibilities between UNAMSIL and Sierra Leone's law enforcement agencies.

39. It is also expected that UNAMSIL will establish an electoral component with long-term observers. The tasks of the electoral component will also be clearly defined in the operational plan to be prepared on the basis of the report of the electoral needs assessment mission.

IX. Human rights

40. Investigations conducted by the Human Rights Section of UNAMSIL during the reporting period revealed attacks against the civilian population by both RUF and the Civil Defence Forces in several villages in the Kono and Koinadugu districts. On 17 June 2001, a CDF group attacked the village of Yaraiya. Corroborating witness accounts revealed that 24 people were killed in the attack. Following that incident, RUF combatants attacked the village of Henekuma on 19 July, killing at least 19 people. The RUF leadership attributed this attack to an unauthorized act by a renegade commander, and undertook to apprehend him.

41. The prolonged detention of persons in Freetown Central Prison under the state of emergency, some of whom have been in custody without charge or access to legal counsel since May 2000, has continued during the reporting period. There have been cases of deaths in custody, including the death of a former RUF secretary-general on 21 July. According to prison officials, these deaths have been due to natural causes, although detainees claim that poor medical treatment has contributed to such deaths. UNAMSIL continues to monitor the conditions in the detention facilities and to draw the attention of the Government to areas that need to be improved. Human rights officers recently visited Bonthe Island prison, where some RUF detainees have been transferred, and found conditions at the facility to be satisfactory.

Women's rights

42. UNAMSIL and an international non-governmental organization have sponsored a study on the prevalence and impact of sexual violence in Sierra Leone. It is of grave concern that, of the 733 randomly selected women interviewed during the research, 345 reported having been raped. The participation of these women in the reconciliation process and their reintegration into their communities constitute some of the challenges to be addressed. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women, Radhika Coomaraswamy, visited Sierra Leone from 22 to 31 August.

Child protection

43. Child combatants, abductees and other separated children continued to be released to UNAMSIL by RUF. From May to 31 July, 1,169 children were released in Makeni, Kailahun and Tongo. A total of 1,214 children have been demobilized by RUF and 646 children by the Civil Defence Forces. So far, less than 8 per cent of the children released or directly entering the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme are girls. UNICEF and the child protection agencies have therefore developed a special information programme for the release of girls and women. All released children and demobilized child combatants enter UNICEF-supported child protection programmes, which provide emergency interim care, family tracing and reunification, and also community-based reintegration.

Truth and Reconciliation Commission

44. UNAMSIL continued to engage the RUF leadership on the issue of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. A sensitization campaign in the Northern Province was launched at Makeni on 2 August 2001. In general, RUF appears receptive to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Nevertheless, they express concern over the independence of the Commission and the relationship between it and the Special Court.

45. On 1 August 2001, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights addressed a letter to potential donors with a preliminary budget and information on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. According to the initial estimates, the first year of operation of the Commission would cost approximately $10 million. Currently, the Office of the High Commissioner is working with UNAMSIL to revise the preliminary budget prior to the formal launching of a special appeal by the High Commissioner. The High Commissioner is also considering the establishment of an interim secretariat for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which will initially function under the auspices of UNAMSIL. In the meantime, the selection process of international commissioners has made progress. The High Commissioner will soon forward her recommendations to the selection panel. Regarding the national commissioners, the Advisory Committee to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General met recently and submitted a shortlist of nominees for his consideration.

Special Court

46. Following the exchange of communications between the Secretary-General and the Security Council (S/2001/693 and S/2001/722), in which the Council concurred with the recommendation to commence the operation of the Special Court, the Secretariat, on 23 July 2001, sent a letter to the countries that had made pledges for the first year of operation of the Special Court, and requested that they deposit their contributions with the United Nations within 30 days. Of a total amount pledged of $15,492,500, only a third had been received by the end of the 30-day period.

47. When sufficient contributions have been received to permit the operation of the Trust Fund, the

Secretariat will dispatch a planning mission to Sierra Leone to discuss with the Government the practical arrangements for the establishment of the Special Court. The mission will be expected to assess more accurately the needs of the Prosecutor's Office and the Registry, the state of the investigations, the local capacity and the Government's contribution in premises and personnel. The mission will also be expected to draft, in consultation with UNAMSIL and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, general guidelines regarding the relationship between the Special Court and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

48. The Revolutionary United Front has indicated that, while it will not stand in the way of the Court's establishment, it expects that the Court will be impartial and that it will try all those who have been accused of atrocities during the period in question, not only members of RUF. The Government, for its part, has continued to express its full support for the Court. However, on 20 August the Government sent a letter to the Legal Counsel of the United Nations in which it requested that the temporal jurisdiction of the Court be extended to cover the period since March 1991, when the conflict started. The draft statute and the draft agreement had provided that the temporal jurisdiction would begin on 30 November 1996.

X. Humanitarian aspects

49. Access to people in need has improved greatly because of current progress in the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme. The deployment of the Sierra Leone Army in Kambia and UNAMSIL troops in Koinadugu and Kono districts has enabled United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations to initiate programmes in the most critical sectors, in particular health, education, food security and water and sanitation, in close collaboration with the National Recovery Committee. The Government and the agencies are also planning needs assessment missions in the Kono and Kailahun districts.

50. It is estimated that nearly 200,000 Sierra Leonean refugees remain in asylum countries in the subregion. The number of refugees returning from Guinea on the ship chartered by the International Organization for Migration has significantly declined following the recent stabilization of the security situation in Guinea. However, close to 6,000 refugees from Guinea and Liberia have made their way overland, through RUF-controlled areas, to Daru. A total of 6,000 additional spontaneous returnees have crossed into Kambia from the Forecariah region of Guinea during August. Over 80 per cent of registered returnees have become internally displaced and have been accommodated in temporary settlements until their areas of origin become safe for resettlement.

51. New influxes of Liberian refugees, estimated in the thousands, have continued from Lofa County into Kailahun district. Some of the most vulnerable refugees have been evacuated by UNHCR and UNAMSIL directly from the RUF-held areas of Kailahun, while others who had made their own way to Daru have been transported to areas in Kenema district. Some 734 newly arrived Liberian refugees are currently in temporary settlement camps for returnees in Bo district. Some Liberian refugees have made their way to safer areas in southern Liberia, in the hope of finding assistance in camps for internally displaced persons. During the reporting period, UNHCR and UNAMSIL negotiated the release and repatriation of over 120 displaced Guinean civilians who had been abducted by RUF.

52. Despite increased access and a higher demand for assistance, the Sierra Leone consolidated appeal for 2001 remains underfunded, at just over 40 per cent by mid-year. The limited capacities of both Government and humanitarian agencies at this time of need could undermine the current peace process. Donors' positive and prompt response to the 2001 appeal would be indispensable to enable agencies to effectively address the needs of populations in the newly accessible areas, and initiate transitional programmes towards longer-term development.

XI. Economic developments

53. The continuing improvement in the security situation, combined with sound macroeconomic policies and large external aid flows, has stimulated the beginning of economic recovery and price stability, following years of depression and high inflation. Inflation was slightly negative in 2000, while real GDP expanded almost 4 per cent. Exports were up sharply in the first quarter of the year, owing to a nine-fold increase in the value of official diamond exports. With the increase in economic activity, Government

domestic revenues rose 15 per cent during the same period. Government spending increased sharply from the depressed level of recent years, as larger external aid flows enabled the authorities to step up resettlement and reconstruction activities and to begin to reintroduce public services in previously inaccessible areas.

54. Nonetheless, the country's overall economic and financial situation remains very fragile. The factors affecting economic recovery, presented in my ninth report, have not changed. The country's external debt continues to severely constrain the capacity of the Government to channel additional resources into growth-enhancing and poverty-reducing activities. At the end of 2000, the net present value of the country's external debt was equivalent to 707 per cent of GDP, while external debt service due equalled 48 per cent of exports and about 70 per cent of government revenues, making Sierra Leone eligible for debt relief under the Enhanced Heavily-Indebted Poor Countries Initiative.

XII. Financial aspects

55. The General Assembly, by its resolution 55/251 B of 14 June 2001, authorized me to enter into commitments for the Mission in the amount of $275 million for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001, pending submission of my proposed budget for UNAMSIL for the full 2001-2002 financial period during the main part of the fifty-sixth session of the Assembly. Should the Council approve my recommendation set out in paragraph 62 below as to the extension of the mandate of UNAMSIL, the Mission's initial resource requirements for the 2001-2002 financial period would be met from within the commitment authority granted to me by the Assembly. With regard to the role of UNAMSIL in support of elections in Sierra Leone, I shall seek additional resources from the General Assembly, once the operational plan for the support to be extended by the Mission has been finalized and resource requirements determined.

56. Since its establishment in March 1998, the Trust Fund to support United Nations peacekeeping-related efforts in Sierra Leone has received voluntary contributions amounting to $2.4 million, with expenditures authorized to date in the amount of $1.6 million. As at 15 August 2001, unpaid assessed contributions to the special account for UNAMSIL amounted to $367 million. The total outstanding assessed contributions for all peacekeeping operations at that date amounted to $3,466.9 million.

XIII. Observations

57. The continued progress achieved during the period under review, in particular in the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme and the deployment of UNAMSIL eastward, including the diamond-producing areas, gives grounds for cautious optimism regarding the consolidation of the peace process in Sierra Leone. The potentially destabilizing clashes between the RUF and CDF elements in the east have been addressed in a timely manner by UNAMSIL and the parties. At the same time, these incidents are a clear reminder that many more challenges may be encountered in the coming crucial months. In particular, the months leading up to the elections could be fraught with tensions that could adversely affect the recent impressive gains in the peace process.

58. The shortfalls in the budget for the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme under the World Bank-managed Multi-donor Trust Fund, some $5 million for 2001 alone, remain a particular source of concern. I strongly urge donor countries to support the programme, especially at this juncture, and to meet the requirements presented to them at the donors conference held in Paris on 11 and 12 June 2001.

59. Furthermore, the long-term needs of the reintegration aspect of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme remain crucial to the success of the entire process. Considering the general instability that has prevailed in the subregion for so long, it is a source of deep concern that demobilized combatants who remain idle for too long or begin to feel that they are not directly benefiting from disarmament could resort to activities that might undermine not only the peace process in Sierra Leone but also the stability of the subregion. It is also important to assist RUF to transform itself into a genuine political party that can participate in the coming elections. I appeal to countries in the West African subregion, as well as donor countries, to extend technical and other appropriate assistance to RUF in this regard.

60. Another crucial challenge facing Sierra Leone is the restoration of State authority and the preparations

for elections. I urge the Government of Sierra Leone to accelerate its efforts to restore civil authority throughout the country, and welcome the establishment of the National Recovery Committee, which should intensify its activities aimed at restoring essential government services to the long-neglected communities in the countryside of Sierra Leone. I also call on the Government to further strengthen and deploy the police and the army, and to increase its capacity to better regulate the diamond mining industry, with the assistance of donor countries.

61. I welcome the efforts made by the National Electoral Commission in providing a strategic planning framework for the presidential and parliamentary elections, as well as its work on a proposal for a new electoral system in Sierra Leone. It is clear, however, that elections should be held only after certain benchmarks have been achieved. These should include the completion of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme, the transformation of RUF into a political party, the restoration of civil authority throughout the country, the deployment of UNAMSIL and the guarantee of freedom of movement throughout the country. Furthermore, issues such as the resettlement of returning refugees and internally displaced persons must be taken into account. I hope, therefore, that all parties will accept the recently announced postponement of the elections.

62. In this context, I recommend the extension of the Mission's mandate for a further period of six months. During this period, UNAMSIL will seek to complete the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme, continue to assist in the implementation of the Abuja Ceasefire Agreement and to support the preparations for the forthcoming national elections. With regard to the role of UNAMSIL in elections, after considering the report of the electoral needs assessment mission, which visited Sierra Leone in August, I shall revert to the Security Council regarding the additional resources needed to enable UNAMSIL to support the Government in the electoral process, including, if necessary, a temporary increase in the military strength of the Mission.

63. The recent progress in the peace process, in particular the advancement of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme and the release of child soldiers and abductees by the armed groups, has meant that UNAMSIL had to take on previously unforeseen support tasks — such as the provision of transport for those children and additional logistical assistance to the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme. In view of the fact that UNAMSIL is expected to continue to provide such assistance, any additional requirements will be reflected in the Mission's next budget.

64. A durable solution to the conflict in Sierra Leone can be based only on restoration of government authority throughout the country, tangible progress towards economic recovery, full reintegration of ex-combatants, national reconciliation and participatory democracy. It will also be necessary to continue to strengthen Sierra Leone's security forces to safeguard the country's own stability. Once sufficient progress has been made towards these objectives, the involvement of the United Nations in Sierra Leone could be adjusted accordingly.

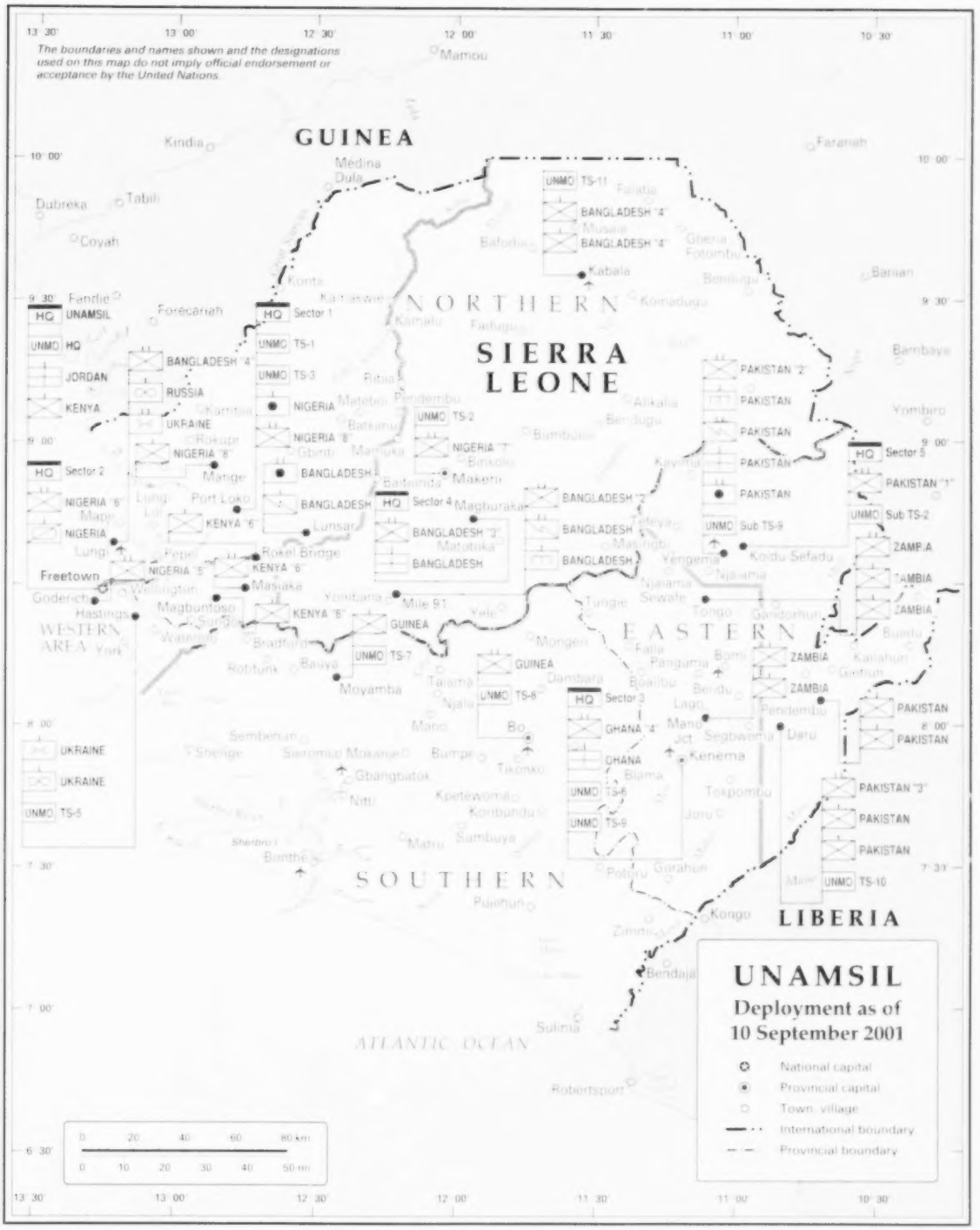
65. For the first time in many years, thousands of Sierra Leoneans who have been displaced by the war may finally have a chance to return home, rebuild their communities and resume a normal existence. At the same time, I continue to be concerned about the precarious humanitarian situation in many areas of the country, some of which are only now becoming accessible to humanitarian agencies. The large-scale violence against women found to be pervasive in Sierra Leone also remains a source of major concern. I urge all parties to respect human rights, and those of women and children in particular. The Government must step up its effort to improve prison conditions that may have led to unnecessary suffering of inmates in its custody.

66. I appreciate the pledges made by Member States to the United Nations Trust Fund established for the Special Court for Sierra Leone and trust that the amounts pledged will materialize soon, which will allow the earliest possible beginning of this important initiative. I also hope that donors will respond positively to the appeal by the High Commissioner for Human Rights and contribute generously to the establishment of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. These two institutions are mutually reinforcing instruments through which impunity will be brought to an end and long-term reconciliation may be achieved.

67. The recent efforts by the members of the Mano River Union to resume political dialogue, especially the rising prospects for a summit meeting of Mano River Union Presidents, are a welcome step forward.

The meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs at Monrovia, followed by the meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security at Freetown in August were long-overdue steps towards the objective of regional peace and stability. I commend the leaders of the Mano River Union for taking this initiative, and encourage them to resolutely pursue the process of dialogue. I also applaud the efforts of the Mano River Union Women's Peace Network for its contribution to this important regional initiative.

68. In conclusion, I should like to commend the parties, my Special Representative, and the UNAMSIL military and civilian personnel for the progress accomplished during the period under review. I would also like to once again express my appreciation to the countries contributing troops to this very important Mission, as well as to the ECOWAS subregion and donors for their support for the peace process in Sierra Leone.


The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
GUINEA
SIERRA LEONE
LIBERIA
ATLANTIC OCEAN
NORTHERN
SOUTHERN
EASTERN
WESTERN AREA
Freetown
UNAMSIL
HQ
UNMO HQ
JORDAN
KENYA
UKRAINE
RUSSIA
NIGERIA
BANGLADESH
HQ Sector 1
UNMO TS-1
UNMO TS-3
HQ Sector 2
NIGERIA 6
NIGERIA 8
KENYA 6
NIGERIA 5
HQ Sector 4
BANGLADESH 2
BANGLADESH 3
UNMO TS-2
NIGERIA 7
UNMO TS-11
BANGLADESH 4
BANGLADESH 1
HQ Sector 3
GHANA 4
GHANA
UNMO TS-6
UNMO TS-9
UNMO TS-7
UNMO TS-8
GUINEA
PAKISTAN 2
PAKISTAN
PAKISTAN 1
HQ Sector 5
UNMO Sub TS-2
UNMO Sub TS-9
ZAMBIA
PAKISTAN 3
UNMO TS-10
UNMO TS-5
Mamou
Kindia
Medina Dula
Dubreka
Tabili
Coyah
Faranah
Forecariah
Kabala
Bafodia
Musaia
Gbinti Kamaranka
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Gbangbatok
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Sembehun
Sherbro I.
Bonthe
Matru
Sumbuya
Pujehun
Zimmi
Kongo
Bendaja
Sulima
Robertsport
Tongo
Gandorhun
Yengema
Koidu Sefadu
Njaiama Sewafe
Tefeya
Tungie
Mongeri
Yomandu
Tabama
Njala
Daru
Segbwema
Kailahun
Buedu
Pendembu
Baiima
Kamboma
Kamakwie
Kamalo
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Addendum

Annex

United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone: contributions as at 5 September 2001

	Military observers	*Staff officers*	*Troops*	*Sector headquarters staff*	*Total*
Bangladesh	12	18	4 273	60	4 363
Bolivia	6				6
Canada	5				5
China	6				6
Croatia	10				10
Czech Republic	5				5
Denmark	2				2
Egypt	10				10
France	1				1
Gambia	26				26
Ghana	6	11	849	62	928
Guinea	12	5	773		790
Indonesia	10				10
Jordan	10	2	117		129
Kenya	11	17	989	64	1 081
Kyrgyzstan	2				2
Malaysia	10				10
Mali	8				8
Nepal	9				9
New Zealand	2				2

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	Military observers	*Staff officers*	*Troops*	*Sector headquarters staff*	*Total*
Nigeria	8	23	3 232	65	3 328
Pakistan	11	10	4 206	50	4 277
Russian Federation	15	4	109		128
Slovakia	2				2
Sweden	3				3
Thailand	5				5
Ukraine	5	5	628		638
United Kingdom	15	8			23
United Republic of Tanzania	12				12
Uruguay	11				11
Zambia	10	6	818		834
Total	**260**	**109**	**15 994**	**301**	**16 664**

Authorized strength: Military: 17,500 (up to 260 military observers); civilian police: 60.
Force Commander: Kenya; Deputy Force Commander: Nigeria; Chief Military Observer: Pakistan (from 1 July 2001).
Civilian Police Commissioner: Ghana.
Civilian police component: Bangladesh 7; Canada 2; Gambia 2; Ghana 4; Jordan 3; Kenya 5; Malaysia 2; Nepal 5; Nigeria 3, Norway 3; Senegal 5; Sri Lanka 2; Zambia 2, Zimbabwe 2. Total 47.

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General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Item 178 of the provisional agenda*
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 7 September 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to draw your attention to the latest incident of Palestinian terrorism perpetrated yesterday in Israel.

Shortly after 7.00 p.m. last night, Erez Merhavi, age 23, and a companion were travelling near Kibbutz Bahan when their car was fired upon by the occupants of another vehicle. Merhavi was killed instantly, and his companion suffered a severe gunshot wound to the chest and was evacuated to a nearby hospital. The Al-Aksa Brigade, an armed wing of Chairman Arafat's own Fatah faction, claimed responsibility for the murder.

Yesterday's murder is merely the latest atrocity committed by Palestinians in an ongoing campaign of terrorism that has been detailed in my letters dated 4 September 2001 (A/56/331-S/2001/840), 30 August 2001 (A/56/325-S/2001/834), 27 August 2001 (A/56/324-S/2001/825), 13 August 2001 (A/56/294-S/2001/787), 9 August 2001 (A/56/286-S/2001/780), 8 August 2001 (A/56/280-S/2001/775), 6 August 2001 (A/56/272-S/2001/768), 27 July 2001 (A/56/225-S/2001/743), 26 July 2001 (A/56/223-S/2001/737), 17 July 2001 (A/56/201-S/2001/706), 13 July 2001 (A/56/184-S/2001/696), 3 July 2001 (A/56/138-S/2001/662), 2 July 2001 (A/56/131-S/2001/656), 21 June 2001 (A/56/119-S/2001/619), 19 June 2001 (A/56/98-S/2001/611), 18 June 2001 (A/56/97-S/2001/604), 13 June 2001 (A/56/92-S/2001/585), 11 June 2001 (A/56/91-S/2001/580), 4 June 2001 (A/56/85-S/2001/555), 30 May 2001 (A/56/81-S/2001/540), 25 May 2001 (A/56/80-S/2001/524), 18 May 2001 (A/56/78-S/2001/506), 11 May 2001 (A/56/72-S/2001/473), 9 May 2001 (A/56/69-S/2001/459), 1 May 2001 (A/55/924-S/2001/435), 23 April 2001 (A/55/910-S/2001/396), 16 April 2001 (A/55/901-S/2001/364), 28 March 2001 (A/55/863-S/2001/291), 27 March 2001 (A/55/860-S/2001/280), 26 March 2001 (A/55/858-S/2001/278), 19 March 2001 (A/55/842-S/2001/244), 5 March 2001 (A/55/821-S/2001/193), 2 March 2001 (A/55/819-S/2001/187), 14 February 2001 (A/55/787-S/2001/137), 13 February 2001 (A/55/781-S/2001/132), 2 February 2001 (A/55/762-S/2001/103), 25 January 2001

* A/56/150.

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(A/55/748-S/2001/81), 23 January 2001 (A/55/742-S/2001/71), 28 December 2000 (A/55/719-S/2000/1252), 22 November 2000 (A/55/641-S/2000/1114), 20 November 2000 (A/55/634-S/2000/1108) and 2 November 2000 (A/55/540-S/2000/1065).

The State of Israel holds the Palestinian leadership responsible for these attacks in the light of its relentless campaign of incitement to violence against Israel and its continued refusal to take any concerted action to control the operations of terrorist organizations based in the territory under its jurisdiction. Terrorists routinely flee from the scene of attacks to territory administered by the Palestinian Authority, where they are given refuge. The Palestinian leadership, in flagrant violation of its signed commitments, has allowed its territory to become a hub of terrorism directed at innocent Israeli civilians, a policy which must be unequivocally condemned by the international community.

Israel once again calls upon Chairman Arafat and the Palestinian leadership to carry out the actions which they are legally obliged to implement, and to act resolutely to prevent the perpetration of terrorist attacks against Israeli targets. These actions must include putting an end to all acts of violence and terrorism, putting an end to incitement in the official Palestinian media and educational institutions, arresting terrorists engaged in planning future attacks against Israel and putting an end to official Palestinian support, both active and tacit, for armed aggression against Israeli civilians.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under item 178 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ambassador Aaron **Jacob**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.